



## **Transfusion Medicine Epidemiological Review (TMER) Patient and Public Involvement Engagement Strategy**

The Transfusion Medicine Epidemiology Review (TMER) is a collaborative project between the UK National CJD Research & Surveillance Unit (NCJDRSU), NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) and the remaining UK Blood Services (UKBS). The main purpose is to investigate whether there is any evidence that Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) or variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) infection may have occurred via blood transfusion.

As the TMER project team have no contact with the donors or recipients of the blood components, the main objective of the Patient and Public Involvement Engagement Strategy has been to provide information about the study on the websites of NHSBT and NCJDRSU and on demand. Before donors consent to give blood they are given a welcome leaflet that describes how their data can be used for purposes other than donation, including for research and surveillance activities. There is a balance between informing donors and recipients of potential risk and causing alarm which needs to be carefully considered.