

Fox Den Road
Stoke Gifford
Bristol
BS34 8RR

To: Patient Support Groups,

Tel: 0117 975 7575
Fax: 0117 975 7577
www.nhsbt.nhs.uk

Our Ref: JN/JF/ai/2015/565

Dear Colleague,

We are writing to let you know that we have circulated a letter to the Heads of Solid Organ and Stem Cell Transplant Units across the UK about Hepatitis E and the transplant recipient. We attach the letter and Patient Information Sheet for your information

We would like to stress that we do not know the impact that the virus might have on the transplant recipient. At present, reports in the UK and the rest of the world suggest it is not a major issue but there are reported cases of patients developing fibrosis and cirrhosis.

Although the virus may be transmitted by blood, blood products and the transplanted organ, food is an important source. Pork products have been associated with illness due to HEV. Consumers should continue to follow FSA cooking advice which is that all whole cuts of pork, pork products and offal should be thoroughly cooked until steaming hot throughout, the meat is no longer pink and the juices run clear.

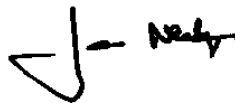
www.food.gov.uk/science/microbiology/hepatitis-e

We thought it would be helpful to share this information with you so you could support any of your members who are concerned. Please circulate both this letter and Patient Information Sheet amongst your members to raise awareness of this issue.

Yours sincerely,



Prof John Forsythe
Chair, SaBTO



Prof James Neuberger
Associate Medical Director