

From the Chief Medical Officer
Dr Michael McBride

HSS(MD)16/2011



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

For action:

Chief Executive of HSC Trusts for distribution to:

- Medical Directors
- Directors of Dental Services
- Directors of Infection Control
- Theatre Managers
- Risk Managers
- *Decontamination leads*
- Consultant Gastroenterologists
- Consultant ENT surgeons
- Consultant Surgeons
- Consultant Pathologists
- Consultant Neurosurgeons
- Consultant Ophthalmologists
- Consultant Haematologists
- Consultant Anaesthetists
- Consultants in Intensive Care

Chief Executive, RQIA for distribution to:

- Independent Hospitals

Chief Executive, HSC Board for distribution to:

- Director of Dental Services

Chief Executive, Public Health Agency

DPH/Medical Director, PHA for distribution to:

- Health Protection Service

Chief Executive of the NI Blood Transfusion Service

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Dear Colleagues

**UPDATED GUIDANCE FROM THE ACDP TSE RISK MANAGEMENT
SUBGROUP (FORMERLY THE TSE WORKING GROUP)**

I wish to advise you that the TSE Risk Management subgroup (formerly the TSE Working Group) of the Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens (ACDP) has updated the following guidance.

- **Part 4**: Infection Control of CJD, vCJD and other human prion diseases in healthcare and community settings and the following Annexes:
 - **Annex A1**: Distribution of TSE infectivity in human tissues or body fluids
 - **Annex E**: Quarantining of Surgical Instruments
 - **Annex F**: Endoscopy
 - **Annex J**: Assessment to be carried out before surgery and/or endoscopy to identify patients with, or at increased risk, of CJD or vCJD
 - **Annex L**: Managing CJD/vCJD risk in ophthalmology

In addition the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and ACDP have issued a joint statement relating to Annex L above. This can be accessed at:

www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@ab/documents/digitalasset/dh_124713.pdf

Please note that all ACDP guidance on TSEs can be downloaded from the website of the Department of Health http://www.dh.gov.uk/ab/ACDP/TSEguidance/DH_098253

Should you have any queries on the information contained in the guidance, please contact Dr Delia Skan on delia.skan@detini.gov.uk or on telephone number 02890 347487.

Yours sincerely



DR MICHAEL McBRIDE
Chief Medical Officer