

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON BLOOD TRANSFUSION (CD-P-TS)

Set up by the Committee of Ministers under Article 17 of the Statute of the Council of Europe and in accordance with Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

Type of committee: Steering Committee

Terms of reference valid from: **1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021**

PILLAR/PROGRAMME/SUB-PROGRAMME
<p>Pillar: Rule of Law Programme: Action against crime, safety and security of citizens Sub-Programme: Quality of Medicines and Healthcare (EDQM, Pharmacopoeia)</p>
MAIN TASKS
<p>Under the authority of the Committee of Ministers, in its composition restricted to the representatives of the States Parties to the Convention on the Elaboration of a European Pharmacopoeia, the CD-P-TS will oversee and coordinate the Council of Europe's work in the field of blood transfusion and advise the Committee of Ministers on all questions within its field of competence. Taking due account of relevant transversal perspectives, the overall aim is to ensure social rights by elaborating and promoting high ethical, safety and quality standards in the field of blood transfusion. In particular, the CD-P-TS is instructed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) examine questions related to human blood transfusion, notably as regards quality and safety standards and their implementation, including collection, preparation, testing, storage, distribution and appropriate use of human blood and its components; (ii) assist member States in improving and, if needed, in restructuring their blood transfusion services by promoting principles of voluntary non-remunerated donations; (iii) propose ethical, safety and quality standards for professional practices and blood component specifications; (iv) ensure the transfer of knowledge and expertise and develop the competencies of experts through training and networking; (v) monitor practices in Europe and assess epidemiological risks and, in particular, the emergence of new blood-borne transmissible infectious agents that might jeopardise the safety of blood transfusion; (vi) promote standards in the collection, preparation, testing and use of blood and blood components using the latest scientific developments, in particular by updating the technical appendix to Recommendation R(95)15, also known as the "Guide to the Preparation, Use and Quality Assurance of Blood Components", and by regularly publishing it and promoting its implementation; (vii) ensure availability of rare blood units by means of the European Database of Frozen Blood Units of Rare Groups; (viii) approve proposals for resolutions prepared for adoption by the Committee of Ministers, in its composition restricted to the representatives of the States Parties to the Convention on the Elaboration of a European Pharmacopoeia; (ix) organise external quality assessment programmes (EQA) such as proficiency testing schemes to measure the performance of testing laboratories in European blood establishments; (x) assist European blood establishments in the implementation of harmonised quality management systems, and European regulatory and technical standards; (xi) oversee the successful implementation of EU/EDQM funded activities, aiming at implementing both EU and Council of Europe standards and harmonising practices in Europe; (xii) participate in or organise scientific symposia/congresses to promote the implementation of the standards described in the Guide on the preparation, use and quality assurance of blood components and increase the visibility of the EDQM's activities in the field of blood transfusion; (xiii) co-operate with the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO) in the implementation of the Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine (ETS No. 164) as far as blood transfusion is concerned; (xiv) hold an exchange of views annually in order to evaluate its activities and advise the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary General on future priorities in its sector, including possible new activities and those that might be discontinued; (xv) take due account of a gender perspective in the performance of its tasks; (xvi) take the pertinent aspects of the European Convention on Human Rights into consideration in its thematic work;

- (xvii) in accordance with decisions CM/Del/Dec(2013)1168/10.2 of the Committee of Ministers, carry out, at regular intervals, within the limits of the available resources and bearing in mind its priorities, an examination of some or all of the conventions for which it has been given responsibility,¹ in co-operation, where appropriate, with the relevant convention-based bodies, and report back to the Committee of Ministers;
- (xviii) contribute to the achievement of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular with regards to Goal 3: Good health and well-being.

SPECIFIC TASKS

- (i) Update the relevant standards and publish a new edition of the "Guide to the Preparation, Use and Quality Assurance of Blood Components" in response to scientific progress in the field of blood transfusion.
- (ii) Organise international surveys to gather European data on the collection, testing and use of blood components and haemovigilance, analyse the data and make them available in annual reports to be published on the EDQM's website.
- (iii) Provide member States with tools to assess and improve plasma supply management.
- (iv) Provide blood establishments with tools to assess and improve the performance of testing laboratories.
- (v) Provide blood establishments with tools to implement and develop quality management systems and to implement the European standards.
- (vi) Provide member States with guidance on data collection on the incidence and prevalence of sexually-transmitted infections in the general population, in blood donors and among individuals with risky sexual behaviours for use as a scientific basis for amendments to donor deferral policy.
- (vii) Improve visibility of Council of Europe activities in the field of blood transfusion.
- (viii) Review progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), as evidenced by monitoring mechanisms and promoted through standard-setting and exchange of experiences and good practices.

COMPOSITION

Members:

Governments of the States Parties to the Convention on the Elaboration of a European Pharmacopoeia are invited to designate one representative of the highest possible rank with expertise in a field covered by these terms of reference. Each member of the committee shall have one vote. Where a government designates more than one member, only one of them is entitled to take part in voting.

The sending authorities of the member States will bear the travel and subsistence expenses for their representatives' participation in the meetings of the CD-P-TS. The travel and subsistence expenses of the Chair will be borne by the EDQM budget.

In accordance with decisions CM/Del/Dec(2013)1168/10.2 of the Committee of Ministers, in cases where there is no convention-based body including all the Parties, non-member States are invited to take part, with a right to vote, in the committee meetings pertaining to the conventions to which they are Parties.

Participants:

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and at the charge of their corresponding administrative budgets:

- Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;
- European Court of Human Rights;
- Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights;
- Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe;
- Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO);
- Committees or other bodies of the Council of Europe engaged in related work, as appropriate.

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- Council of Europe member States other than those mentioned above under "Members" and other States with observer status to the European Pharmacopoeia Commission;
- European Union;
- Observer States to the Council of Europe: Canada, Holy See, Japan, Mexico, United States of America;
- World Health Organization (WHO).

¹ Cf. relevant decisions of the Committee of Ministers (CM/Del/Dec(2013)1168/10.2) and list of Conventions in document CM(2019)132.

Observers:

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- non-member States with which the Council of Europe has a Neighbourhood Partnership including relevant cooperation activities.
- international professional societies, intergovernmental organisations (IGOs) and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working on topics related to the tasks of the Committee.

WORKING METHODS**Plenary meetings:**

38 members, 1 meeting in 2020, 2 days.

38 members, 1 meeting in 2021, 2 days.

Extraordinary meetings of the CD-P-TS can be convened upon request by the Chairperson.

Bureau meetings:

8 members, 1 meeting in 2020, 2 days.

8 members, 1 meeting in 2021, 2 days.

The Committee will also appoint a Gender Equality Rapporteur from amongst its members.

Representatives taking part in the Committee and its subordinate bodies shall complete a declaration of interest and confidentiality undertaking form (EDQM Form/226).

The rules of procedure of the Committee are governed by Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

With a view to reaching its objectives and to enable multidisciplinary working methods, the committee may in derogation of CM/Res(2011)24, within the limit of budgetary attributions, create subordinate bodies.

Whenever appropriate, it will prioritise environmentally sound working methods, such as virtual meetings facilitated by information technology and written consultations.

BUDGETARY INFORMATION*

	Meetings per year	Number of days	Members	Plenary €K	Bureau €K	Working groups	Secretariat (A, B)
2020	1	2	38	2.2	-	-	1 A; 1 B
2021	1	2	38	2.2	-	-	1 A; 1 B

*The costs include the per diem, travel costs, interpretation, translation and document printing. These costs are calculated on the basis of the 2020 standard costs.