



Medicines & Healthcare products  
Regulatory Agency

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[MHRA Website](#)

Our Ref: **FOI2026/00437**

19 May 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request received on 22 April 2026. You wrote:

*After the COVID injection vaccine spike proteins enters cells modifying them to manufacture more spike proteins. Which cells do they enter?  
Are there now, or were there ever checks for COVID vaccine particles/spike proteins in donated blood?  
If not, bearing in mind spike protein production in the vaccinated lasts for years, possibly indefinitely, why not?  
Please list the viruses, bacteria, spike proteins, nucleotides and all undesirable elements that you test for before allowing blood to be transfused into patients.  
How do you remove these items to make the blood safe? (Do you have standard procedures, for example filter techniques or absorption?)  
How about specifically from immune cells and exosomes?  
How many people have received a transfusion after the vaccination program?  
Have people who received a transfusion after the vaccination program been tested for spike protein expression?  
If this is not being actively researched, why not?*

### **MHRA Response**

Please see below responses to your questions.

*After the COVID injection vaccine spike proteins enters cells modifying them to manufacture more spike proteins. Which cells do they enter?*

Injection of the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines are given in the upper arm muscle or upper thigh. After vaccination, the mRNA (not the portion of the spike protein component itself), being delivered in lipid nanoparticles (LNPs), will mainly be taken up by muscle cells, although other cells may also take up the mRNA (including antigen-presenting cells).

*Are there now, or were there ever checks for COVID vaccine particles/spike proteins in donated blood?*

There are no checks done on donated blood for the spike protein or mRNA from the Covid vaccine.

*If not, bearing in mind spike protein production in the vaccinated lasts for years, possibly indefinitely, why not?*

The authorised vaccines for Covid-19 do not contain the live virus. Spike protein production as a result of vaccination is not expected to last years, but rather weeks. Only a portion of the spike protein is produced, not the full protein. For anyone who has been vaccinated, there is no evidence that blood donation will transmit infection, in fact it may contain protective antibodies against COVID-19. There is also no evidence that donations from vaccinated individuals will increase the risk of any adverse events, such as thrombosis, in the recipient.

*Please list the viruses, bacteria, spike proteins, nucleotides and all undesirable elements that you test for before allowing blood to be transfused into patients.*

*How do you remove these items to make the blood safe? (Do you have standard procedures, for example filter techniques or absorption?)*

*How about specifically from immune cells and exosomes?*

*How many people have received a transfusion after the vaccination program?*

*Have people who received a transfusion after the vaccination program been tested for spike protein expression?*

Information on the testing of blood donations is available in the public domain, please see the below link.

[Tests we carry out - NHS Blood Donation](#)

MHRA maintains regulatory oversight of blood establishments and hospital blood banks who are expected to comply with the Blood safety and Quality Regulations. We suggest that you contact the NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) service for further information. Contact details are provided below.

<https://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/contact-us/>

Further information on this subject is available through the NHS Blood Donation and Transplant service.

[Coronavirus COVID-19 updates - NHS Blood Donation](#)

Information on the UK approach to blood transfusion, including donor selection and blood component processing is available on the Joint United Kingdom (UK) Blood Transfusion and Tissue Transplantation Services Professional Advisory Committee (JPAC) website.

[Welcome to JPAC](#)

The Advisory Committee on the Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs (SaBTO) provide independent advice on risk management for Ministers, UK Health Departments, UK Blood and Transplant Services and the wider NHS to consider.

[Advisory Committee on the Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs \(SaBTO\) - GOV.UK](#)

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team  
Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

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If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing [foi.request@mhra.gov.uk](mailto:foi.request@mhra.gov.uk) or by writing to: MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team, 10 South, Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4PU

Any request for an internal review must be received by us within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please note we are not obliged to provide a review if it is requested after more than 40 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Website: [ICO FOI and EIR complaints](#) or telephone 0303 123 1113.

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<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>