

**Notice Information: Human Medicines - Warning
28 October 2008**

Part 1. Product Information

- a) Title: European Commission issue Rapid Alert regarding West Nile Virus Cases in Italy
- b) Product Name/Type: Blood components intended for transfusion; Tissues & cells for human application

Part 2. Target Audience

- a) Target Audience: Blood Establishments & Tissue Establishments including Procurement Organisations

Part 3. Problem/Issue

- a) Problem/Issue: The European Commission has notified all Competent Authorities for Blood and Tissues and Cells of the identification of two cases of West Nile Virus in patients in the Bologna and Ferrara Districts of Italy. The text of these notifications is available below:

Part 4. Background Information

- a) Background Information: Blood Alert – West Nile Virus – Italy 2008 Tissues and Cells Alert – West Nile Virus – Italy 2008

Part 5. Action to be taken

- a) Action to be taken: Appropriate donor screening measures and deferrals should be implemented for donors who have visited these areas so as to ensure the safety of blood and tissues and cells collected and procured in Ireland

Part 6. Enquiries

- a) All enquiries should be made to:

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Irish Medicines Board

Part 7. Keywords

- a) Keywords:

West Nile Virus, Blood, Tissues and Cells