Schmallenberg Virus

The report has been provided of the Risk Assessment of the implications for human health of the outbreak of Schmallenberg virus (SBV) in ruminants. It was prepared jointly by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Stockholm, the Robert Koch Institute (RKI), Germany and the National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), Netherlands.

Epidemiological and microbiological studies carried out by RKI and RIVM have confirmed that the zoonotic potential of SBV is absent or very low.

In view of this risk assessment, SaBTO members are asked whether they are content that Schmallenberg virus does not pose a risk for blood transfusion, and no current action by SaBTO is needed.