

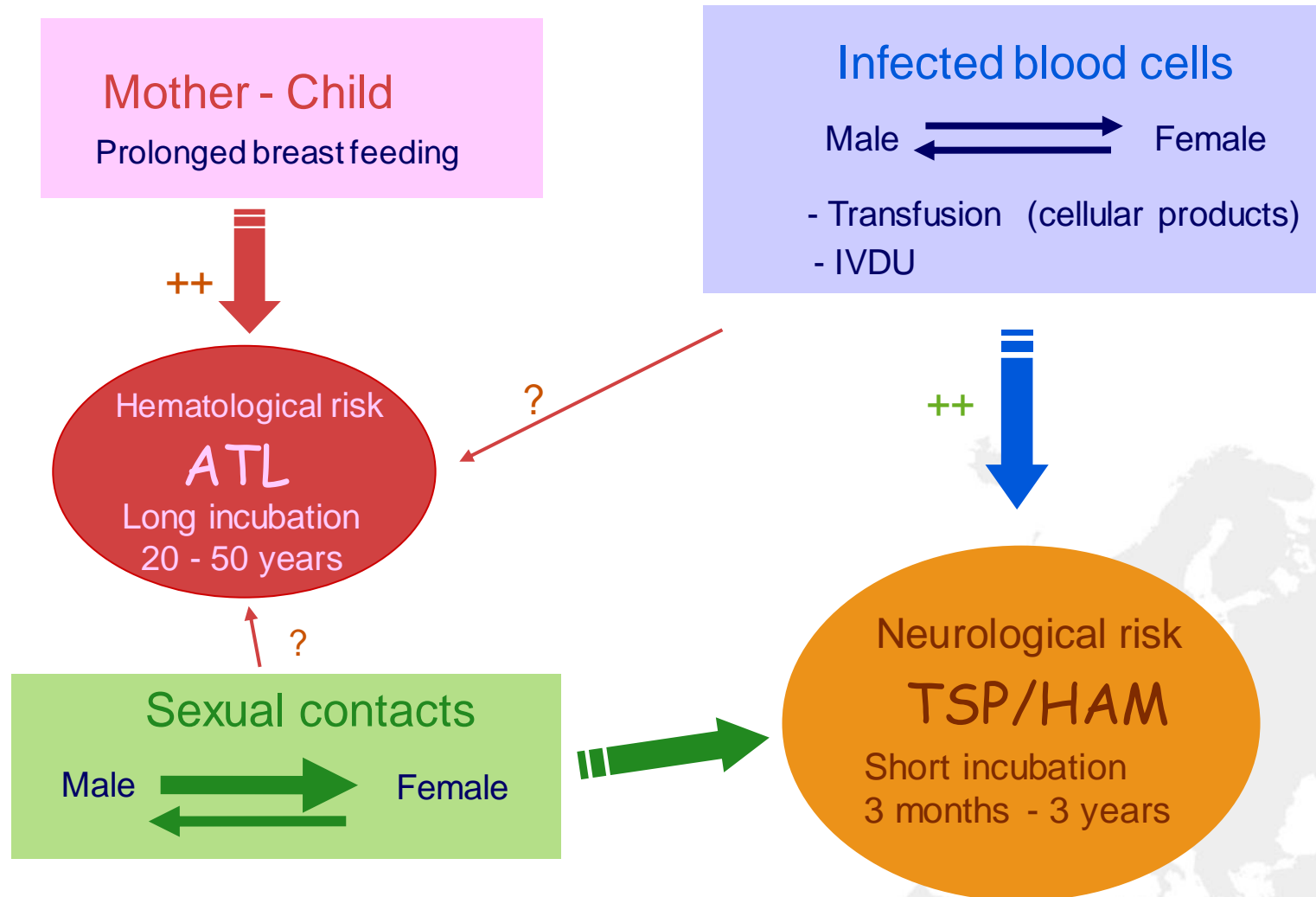


# **Systematic Review of Scientific Evidence and Maps of Areas with the High Prevalence of HTLV-I Infection**

**Meeting of the Competent Authorities for Tissues and Cells.  
3-4 December 2014**

**Dragoslav Domanović  
ECDC, Stockholm, Sweden**

# HTLV-1 modes of transmission



ECDC's recommendations provided in the "Risk Assessment of HTLV –I/II transmission by tissue/cell transplantation" from 14 March 2011,

Directive 2012/39/EU

- replaces the term "incidence" with "prevalence" in the description of endemic areas for HTLV-I/II infection.
- HTLV-I antibody testing must be performed for donors living in, or originating from, high-prevalence areas or with sexual partners originating from those areas or where the donor's parents originate from those areas" for both donors from non-reproductive tissues and cells and of reproductive cells.

# Background

The Member States need to transpose the new requirements

EU Commission requested ECDC to construct a map indicating the HTLV-I high prevalence areas in the world.

the recommended threshold, **prevalence over 1% in the general population or prevalence over 1/10000 among first time blood donors could be considered as indicator of high prevalence and endemic transmission of HTLV.** (ECDC. Risk Assessment of HTLV –I/II transmission by tissue/cell transplantation")

# Objective

**to systematically review the evidence on the distribution of the prevalence of HTLV-I infection in the world in order to determine high prevalence areas.**

- a systematic collection and analysis of scientific publications.
- lists of countries/areas with a high prevalence of HTLV-I infection
- according to which will ECDC develop a map indicating the HTLV-I high-prevalence areas by all Tissues and Cells National Competent Authorities will facilitate a full and harmonised implementation of the requirements of the Directive 2012/39/EU concerning HTLV testing.

# Project management

Project manager:	Dragoslav Domanovic
Project deadline:	End of June 2014
December 2013 -	Request for offer issued
January 2014 -	No offer received
February 2014 -	Request for offer reissued
March 2014 –	One Offer received
May 2014 –	Institut Pasteur, Paris, France granted
June 2014 -	Kick-off meeting
August 2014 -	Contract prolonged to 30 September
September 2014 -	Draft report received

# Data collection and evaluation

- Population:
  - General population, first time blood donors, donors of blood/blood products and pregnant women.
- Interventions:
  - Serological testing for HTLV-I infection confirmed by Western blot
- Type of articles:
  - Reviews and original research articles
- Bibliographic databases:
  - at least PubMed, Embase and the Cochrane Library,
- Language limits:
  - English, French, Spanish.
- Time limits: last 10 years.

# Data analysis tasks

- analyse the retrieved evidence and determine worldwide areas with high prevalence of HTLV-I infection in general population, among first time blood donors, all donors or pregnant woman.
- at the country or sub-national (regional) level depending on the level at which the source data has been performed.
- account for the complexity of detecting the pathogen and the different testing systems.
- assess carefully the quality of evidence
- investigate possible relation between prevalence in blood donors or pregnant women and in the general population in order to assess possibility to estimate prevalence in general population from the data in pregnant women.



# Final report and maps and dissemination

**Final report from  
contractor**



**Map developed  
by ECDC**



**ECDC Technical  
report**



**SANCO D4  
Dissemination  
CIRCABC**



