

Meeting with the PFAS Scientific Advisory Panel

11th October 2023

Les Ormes

Welcome and introduction

**Grace Norman,
Deputy Director of Public Health**

Purpose of the meeting

1. Opportunity for Islanders to meet the Panel
2. To present the draft report 1 (the potential for an interim therapeutic phlebotomy service)
3. To share the draft scope of report 2 (an assessment of the impact of PFAS exposure on health)
4. Opportunity for Islanders questions and input

Agenda

	Agenda item	Time	Lead
1.	Welcome and introductions	5:30pm	Grace Norman
2.	Report 1: The potential for an interim therapeutic phlebotomy service	5:40pm	Dr Steve Hajioff
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summary of the evidence• Recommendations• How islanders can respond		Dr Steve Hajioff
	Question and answer on report 1		PFAS Panel
3.	Report 2: An assessment of the impacts of PFAS exposure on health	6:15pm	Dr Steve Hajioff
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outline of the proposed scope for report 2• Details of the call for testimonies from Islanders		Dr Steve Hajioff
	Question and answer session on report 2 structure		PFAS Panel
4.	Outline of next steps	7:15pm	Grace Norman
	Close	7:30pm	

Introducing the PFAS Panel

Dr Steve Hajioff, Independent Chair

Dr Tony Fletcher, PFAS and Health

Professor Ian Cousins, PFAS and Environment

Report 1:

The potential for an interim therapeutic phlebotomy service (in draft)

Report 1: A Therapeutic Phlebotomy Service

Dr Steve Hajioff

Independent Chair of the PFAS Scientific Advisory Panel

Report 1: Evidence reviewed by the Panel

- Literature review
- 3 subject matter experts gave evidence:
 - Dr Roger Klein, PFAS expert, chemist and medic
 - Professor Kristina Jakobsson, University of Gothenburg
 - Professor Jonathan Martin, Stockholm University

Report structure

1. Literature review
2. Evidence from subject matter experts
3. Risks and benefits of phlebotomy
4. Discussion
5. Recommendations
6. Appendices

Islander input period for Report 1

A two-week Islander input period starts now

We are inviting your feedback on:

- The content and recommendations in the report
- Whether or not you agree with the recommendations
- Any further questions and concerns you wish to raise

No particular format is required for responses

Please email PFASpanel@gov.je with your comments by 25 October

Report 1: A Therapeutic Phlebotomy Service Recommendations

1. The panel recommends that the States of Jersey offer a programme of therapeutic phlebotomy for residents affected by PFAS as an interim measure pending detailed review of the health effects of PFAS and the effectiveness of different types of potential interventions.
2. That therapeutic phlebotomy be offered to those people who would like to take it up, were tested as a part of the public health programme in July 2022 and who were found to have a total across 8 measured PFAS compounds of at least 10 nanograms per millilitre of blood serum. Those eligible should receive information explaining the expected impact of phlebotomy so they can make an informed choice about participation in the service.
3. That background levels of PFAS in the wider community be estimated by the analysis of altruistic blood donation samples, excess serum collected to perform other tests, or by other means. This should be done on an anonymous basis.

Report 1: A Therapeutic Phlebotomy Service Recommendations

4. That when an individual's serum PFAS levels reach the median background levels, further phlebotomy should not be performed.
5. That phlebotomy be offered to eligible people between 18 and 65 who weigh at least 50 kg. If an eligible person is not between 18 and 65 years of age or weighs less than 50 kg, clinical judgement should be applied as to whether it is appropriate for them to have phlebotomy.
6. That if an otherwise eligible person is pregnant at any point during the programme, they are not offered phlebotomy.

Report 1: A Therapeutic Phlebotomy Service Recommendations

7. That if an eligible person has abnormal test results such as blood count or body iron or has concurrent illness, whether they are fit to participate in the phlebotomy programmes should be a matter of clinical judgement.
8. That, by default, phlebotomy should be offered every 2 months with a maximum volume of 480 ml withdrawn no more than 6 times in a year, but intervals could be increased or blood draw volumes reduced on the basis of clinical judgement about a specific individual.

Report 1: A Therapeutic Phlebotomy Service Recommendations

9. That there should be ongoing testing before, during and after the programme to include:
 - a) PFAS levels, including the 8 specific PFAS compounds detected in the first measurements in at least some individuals – PFHxS PFOS PFOA PFHpS PFNA PFPeS PFDA MeFOSAA
 - b) Full blood count, Iron studies, Cholesterol
 - c) A rating of the severity of any symptoms that were present prior to the programme
 - d) EQ5D-5L or similar tool as a measure of overall quality of life
 - e) A record of any adverse effects experienced during the programme

10. That a clinical history, including any activities that may have lowered PFAS levels (such as blood donation, taking medications like cholestyramine or probenecid and reproductive history) be taken from every participant.

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Report 1: Questions?

Report 2:

An assessment of the impact of PFAS exposure on health

Report 2: An assessment of the impact of PFAS exposure on health

Dr Steve Hajioff

**Independent Chair of the PFAS Scientific
Advisory Panel**

Key parts of the process

- Review and analysis of scientific literature
- Testimony from experts by experience
- Evidence from subject matter experts

Key principles

- Being led by science
- Involving input from experts by experience and subject matter experts
- Public involvement throughout the process
- Meetings being in public
- Ability to work in private where there is a need for confidentiality
- Regular engagement with key stakeholders in addition to panel meetings
- No surprises

Proposed outline of the structure of the report

- Introduction and approach
 - Key concepts in environmental epidemiology
 - Systematic literature reviews & critical appraisal
 - Understanding risk
- Evidence from the scientific literature
- Evidence to the panel
 - Experts by experience
 - Subject matter experts
- Overall findings by strength of evidence
- Discussion
- Recommendations

Evidence from the scientific literature

- PFAS in animals
- PFAS in the human body
- Groups at increased risk
- PFAS and cardiology
- PFAS and cancer
- PFAS and the immune system
- PFAS and the hormonal system
- PFAS and the nervous system
- PFAS and the gastrointestinal system
- PFAS and the urinary system
- PFAS and the reproductive system
- Genetic and epigenetic effects
- Environmental issues and mental health

Overall findings by strength of evidence

- Overall findings by strength of evidence
 - Levels from different studies
 - Specific compounds
 - Disease areas
 - Ongoing monitoring of health

Call for testimonies from Experts by Experience

Please use this email PFASpanel@gov.je

Deadline for written testimonies 25 October 2023

Call for testimonies from Experts by Experience

- Call for evidence from 25 September until 25 October
- The PFAS Panel will review **all** the written evidence (subject to consent)
- Islanders who wish to attend meetings and are selected by the Panel will be invited
- The Panel will select a cross section and invite up to eight people to give their testimonies
- The Panel meetings to hear from experts by experience are 16 November from 10am and 7 December from 10am
- Selected Islanders can present at the usual public online meeting or in private with the Panel members, as preferred
- You may submit written evidence only if you prefer

Call for evidence requirements

- Please use the testimony form
- You need to consent to sharing your information with the Panel otherwise it cannot be used

Consent includes:

- I consent to the processing of my personal information for the purposes of this review. I understand that such information will be treated as strictly confidential and handled in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection (Jersey) Law 2018.
- I agree and I am aware that **if** I attend a public PFAS Panel meeting that this is recorded and in the public domain. *(only applicable if you attend a public meeting)*
- I understand direct quotes from testimonies or meetings may be used for this research and in report publications with all names of individuals remaining **anonymous**.

Next steps for Report 2

- Next Panel meeting: 12 October at 10am
- Invite testimonies from Islanders by 25 October
- Review evidence from Islanders
- Hear from Experts by Experience on 16 November and 7 December from 10am (in public or in private)
- Invite subject matter experts to give evidence to the Panel
- Review global evidence
- Commence drafting process

Report 2: Questions?

Next steps and closing remarks

**Grace Norman,
Deputy Director of Public Health**

Thank you