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Scots GP told he can't donate blood because HE might be pregnant in 'bonkers' NHS encounter

An Ayrshire doctor has shared a 'bonkers' scenario where a healthcare worker refused to accept his blood donation because he might be pregnant- he is of course a man and says he thinks 'political correctness has gone too far'

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By [Jessica North](#) Politics Reporter

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A blood donation was rejected after a man refused to say if he was pregnant or not

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Steffen McAndrew, 41, said that on arrival to a blood donation centre in [Ayr](#), he was handed

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was clearly more.

He said he was stunned by the refusal and as a GP, who works in nearby Prestwick, he knows all too well the value of making time for what could be a lifesaving donation.

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The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service (SNBTS) that provides the question sets to the NHS have said they will change the wording but they wont take out the question for everyone.

Dr McAndrew, who has donated several times, accused health officials of trying to "placate and pacify the gender brigade".

He told The Herald newspaper: "I can't believe they would refuse a donation from a man based on the fact I refused to say if I was pregnant.

"I can also understand those who have suggested, "just tick the box", to enable a donation.

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"However, it is the principle of the matter. I'm pretty sure that was not a question a few years ago when I last donated; I think it was a question for females only. 9+

"To say it is bonkers is an understatement."

Dr McAndrew added: "I have a nagging feeling that it is political correctness gone too far, trying to placate and pacify the gender brigade. I am hugely supportive of the SNBTS.

Privacy | I to the day-to-day operation of the NHS.



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"But I think they are shooting themselves in the foot with this. It's a fundamental problem in the NHS - and society - that common sense has been lost, obliterated."

Changes to the blood donor form proposed by the health service would tell potential donors to tick "no" in answer to the pregnancy question if it is considered to be "non-applicable"

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An SNBTS spokesman said: "On April 6, 2022, we adjusted the way we ask some questions on the donor health check questionnaire. All donors are now asked the same questions, regardless of donor sex, including 'Are you pregnant, or have you been pregnant in the last six months?'

"For many donors this question will not be relevant, however, giving blood may be harmful for individuals who are pregnant, or who have been pregnant recently."

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"We are always grateful to our donors for suggestions and comments. Following donor feedback, are planning to update the wording of the question to "Are you pregnant, or have you been pregnant in the last six months? (If not applicable, please tick no)". This is likely to be implemented at the next donor health check update due in summer 2023."

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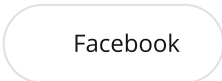
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