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Analysis of Biochemical Indicators of Iron Metabolism in Primary Allogenic Blood Donors

Abstract:

Currently, there is a significant shortage of donated blood and blood components worldwide. According to WHO recommendations, an adequate and reliable supply of safe and high-quality donated blood and blood components can only be achieved through regular voluntary unpaid donations. The study aims to examine the main biochemical indicators characterising iron metabolism in first-time allogeneic blood donors, in order to subsequently use them as reference values for comparative analysis in scientific research, as well as for developing practical recommendations concerning strategies for recruiting and retaining first-time voluntary unpaid blood donors. The methodological basis of this study was a systematic approach, which allowed for a comprehensive study and analysis of the biochemical indicators of iron metabolism in primary allogenic blood donors. The results obtained were used to develop practical recommendations for the Blood Centre of the Armed Forces of Ukraine regarding the strategy for attracting and retaining primary blood donors who make voluntary unpaid donations. Based on mathematical analysis, a positive correlation has been established between the indicators of secondary metabolic disorders in the examined donors and the main biochemical indicators of iron metabolism in first-time allogeneic blood donors, which may be used as reference values in conducting comparative analyses in future scientific studies.

Keywords: blood donors, donations, iron, biochemical parameters, primary allogeneic blood donors.

Андрій Володимирович Корж, старший викладач, кафедра анестезіології та реаніматології, факультет перепідготовки та підвищення кваліфікації, Українська військово-медична академія. Київ, Україна.

Аналіз біохімічних показників обміну заліза у первинних донорів алогенної крові

Анотація:

Наразі в світі існує значний дефіцит донорської крові та компонентів крові. Згідно з рекомендаціями ВООЗ, адекватне і надійне забезпечення безпечною та якісною донорською кров'ю та компонентами крові може здійснюватися виключно на базі регулярних добровільних безоплатних

донацій. Мета роботи – дослідити основні біохімічні показники, що характеризують біохімічні показники обміну заліза у первинних донорів алогенної крові для подальшого їх використання як контрольних значень для порівняльного аналізу при проведенні наукових досліджень та використання для розробки практичних рекомендацій відносно стратегії із залучення та утримання первинних донорів крові, які здійснюють добровільні безоплатні донації. Методологічною основою даного дослідження був системний підхід, який дозволив різнобічно вивчити та проаналізувати біохімічні показники обміну заліза у первинних донорів алогенної крові. Отримані результати були використані для розробки практичних рекомендацій для Центру крові Збройних Сил України відносно стратегії з залучення і утримання первинних донорів крові, які здійснюють добровільні безоплатні донації.

Ключові слова: донори крові, донації, залізо, біохімічні показники, первинні донори алогенної крові.

Abbreviations:

FN is ferritin,

Ft is ferritin,

GMP is Good Manufacturing Practice,

SI is serum iron (concentration),

Tf is transferrin,

TIBC is total iron-binding capacity,

TS is transferrin saturation,

UIBC is unsaturated (latent) iron-binding capacity.

Introduction

According to the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union, the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, our country embarked on the path of integration into the European Community. This, in particular, imposed requirements to review and reform the existing blood service in Ukraine, and envisaged the mandatory establishment of production in line with the requirements of GMP and the European Pharmacopoeia (*Vidborets & Derpak, 2022; Perekrstenko et al., 2014; Haidukova et al., 2014*).

The main provisions and principles were adopted as the basis for reforming the blood system in Ukraine, a process that continues successfully. Considering the general approaches to reforming transfusion medicine in Ukraine, in recent years the country has achieved the maximum possible implementation of organisational, methodological and legal approaches in accordance with European and global standards (*On Infectious Safety..., 2005; On Approval of the Procedure..., 2013; Guide..., 2020*).

The reform of the blood system in Ukraine has strengthened the position of transfusiology as an integral part of the healthcare system, which holds strategic significance for the state as a whole. Over the course of the reform, Ukraine's blood system has become more structured, acquired a truly systemic character, and now represents a synthesis of scientific achievements and practical work in the organisation and technology of blood collection, the production and

use of blood components, the organisation, methodology and techniques of transfusion, and the protection of donor health (*Guide...*, 2020; *AABB Standards...*, 2016; *Fung et al.*, 2014).

The main task of the blood service is to ensure equal access for the population of Ukraine to high-quality and safe components of donor blood in the required quantity (*On Infectious Safety...*, 2005; *Activities...*, 2021). The quality and safety of blood components refer to the compliance of donor blood, as the basis for the production of blood components, or components of blood directly collected from the donor (apheresis), which are supplied to consumers, with the legally established standards of quality and safety (*Fung et al.*, 2014; *Blood Safety...*, 2020). Strict adherence to the established regulations and procedures for collection, testing, processing, storage, distribution, and transportation of donor blood and its components by the entities of the blood service serves as a guarantee of the quality and safety of blood components used for transfusion purposes, upon which the safety of recipients and the clinical effectiveness of transfusion directly depend (*Vidborets & Derpak*, 2022; *Perekrestenko et al.*, 2014; *Haidukova et al.*, 2014; *On Infectious Safety...*, 2005; *On Approval of the Procedure...*, 2013; *Guide...*, 2020; *Fung et al.*, 2014; *Blood Safety...*, 2020).

Despite the obvious relevance of this issue for the blood service, few studies have been devoted to examining iron metabolism disorders in donors; the results presented are often contradictory, there is a lack of controlled studies and an insufficient evidence base, data regarding biochemical changes at different stages of participation in donation are not clearly defined, and the issues of post-transfusion reactions and complications, as well as the transmission of transfusion-transmitted infections, remain unresolved (*On Infectious Safety...*, 2005; *On Approval of the Procedure...*, 2013; *Activities...*, 2021; *Assessment...*, 2020; *Weiss et al.*, 2019; *Vidborets et al.*, 2021). This has prompted us to perform the present study.

The study aims to investigate the main biochemical parameters that characterise iron metabolism in first-time allogeneic blood donors, with a view to using them as reference values for comparative analysis in scientific research and for developing practical recommendations regarding strategies for recruiting and retaining first-time voluntary unpaid blood donors.

Methods and Materials

The methodological basis of this study was a systemic approach, which made it possible to comprehensively examine the biochemical indicators of iron metabolism in the blood of donors. We examined 135 first-time allogeneic blood donors from the Blood Centre of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

According to the age classification (WHO, 2025), all the examined first-time donors were divided into three subgroups:

- young donors are 69 individuals (47 men and 22 women) aged 18 to 44 years;
- middle-aged donors are 47 individuals (35 men and 12 women) aged 45 to 59 years;
- older donors are 19 individuals (13 men and 6 women) aged 60 to 74 years (*Table 1*).

Thus, in the study group, the average age of the examined first-time donors was (37.87 ± 1.33) years, with individual variations ranging from 20 to 59 years. The average age of male donors was (38.46 ± 1.52) years, with individual variations from 20 to 59 years. The average age of female donors was (36.49 ± 2.38) years, with individual variations from 22 to 56 years.

All 135 primary allogeneic blood donors were practically healthy and, based on the results of a questionnaire, specialist examination and determination of haemoglobin levels, were admitted to donate blood. The results of testing the donated blood for the presence of markers of transfusion-transmissible infections were negative. All donors were examined in accordance with the requirements of the “Procedure for Medical Examination of Blood Donors and/or Its Components”, approved by Order of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine No. 385 dated August 1, 2005 (*On the Infections Safety...*, 2025), as donors whose blood is used for the preparation of components, as well as in line with other applicable regulatory legal acts.

Before donating blood, the donors completed a questionnaire and underwent a medical examination by qualified specialists according to the requirements of the current “Procedure for Medical Examination of Blood Donors and Blood Components”. For each donor, the haemoglobin content was determined (normal is not less than 135 g/L for men, not less than 125 g/L for women). Based on the examination results, the volume of blood donation was determined for each donor (there is 450 ml of the maximum permissible dose, excluding up to 40 ml of blood taken for testing).

After donation, the main biochemical parameters were determined in the donors' plasma, and screening for markers of transfusion-transmissible infections (HIV-1/2, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, syphilis) was performed. For the research, devices and reagents registered and certified for use in Ukraine were used. The devices underwent metrological control in accordance with the established periodicity.

The haematological parameters of peripheral blood were determined on automatic haematology analysers “Micros 60” (ABX, France) and “PCE-210” (ERMA, Japan), and the main biochemical parameters were measured on a semi-automatic biochemical analyser “STARDAST-MC-15” (DiaSys Diagnostic Systems, Germany). The iron content in serum was determined using the bathophenanthroline method. The *TIBC* of serum was determined by saturating transferrin with trivalent iron. The unsaturated (latent) iron-binding capacity of serum was calculated as the difference between the total iron-binding capacity of serum and the serum iron content. The transferrin saturation coefficient was calculated as the ratio of serum iron content to the total iron-binding capacity of serum. The *Tf* content in serum was determined according to the total iron-binding capacity of serum. The ferritin content in serum was determined by the radioimmunoassay method. The obtained study results were processed using methods of variational statistics.

Literature Review

The development of modern transfusion medicine and donor safety systems is grounded in the convergence of international standards, national regulations, and biomedical research addressing blood quality, donor health, and iron metabolism. The AABB Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services (2016) and the AABB Technical Manual (*Fung et al.*, 2014) remain key global references, establishing frameworks for blood component preparation, donor selection, and infection control. Similarly, the Guide to the Preparation, Use and Quality Assurance of Blood Components (2020) reflects European best practices harmonising quality assurance and haemovigilance protocols across member states.

At the national level, Ukraine has progressively aligned its blood service system with international guidelines through regulatory acts and monitoring programmes. The Orders of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine on infectious safety (*On Infectious Safety...*, 2005) and screening procedures (*On Approval...*, 2013) formalised the control of transfusion-transmissible infections, while the Activities of Blood Service Institutions of Ukraine in 2020 report (2021) provided analytical data on donor dynamics, stock management, and epidemiological trends. These measures correspond to the WHO recommendations (*Assessment of Iron Status...*, 2020; *Blood Safety and Availability*, 2020) on blood safety, availability, and iron status assessment, confirming the integration of evidence-based practices into Ukrainian transfusion policy.

Academic research has significantly contributed to understanding donor physiology and long-term safety. Derpak (2009) presented early morphometric analyses of erythrocytes in regular donors, revealing adaptive changes in red blood cell structure. Later studies by Derpak and Vidyborets (2019a; 2019b) expanded this line of research, introducing a pathophysiological substantiation of donation safety based on complex clinical, biochemical, and biophysical parameters. Their findings highlighted the need for dynamic monitoring of iron metabolism and haematopoietic response among active donors, particularly those with extended donation histories.

The relationship between blood donation and iron metabolism has been comprehensively discussed in the monograph *Blood Donation and Iron Metabolism* (Vidyborets & Derpak, 2022), which synthesises Ukrainian and international data on post-donation iron recovery, ferritin regulation, and gender-specific responses. The authors' approach is consistent with Weiss, Ganz, and Goodnough's (2019) analysis of iron metabolism disorders and anaemia of inflammation, which contextualises donor iron depletion as part of broader metabolic and immune interactions. Complementary research by Chepurna and Vidyborets (2022) proposed diagnostic algorithms for detecting iron deficiency in donors, incorporating WHO's serum ferritin criteria (*Assessment of Iron Status...*, 2020) and emphasising preventive monitoring.

Beyond physiological parameters, sociological and organisational aspects of donation are explored by Perekrestenko et al. (2014), who examined Ukraine's donation capacity and demographic determinants affecting donor recruitment. Haidukova, Vidyborets, and Sergienko (2014) addressed the motivational and educational dimensions of donor engagement, providing methodological tools for blood service institutions. Their insights resonate with WHO's (*Blood Safety and Availability*, 2020) advocacy for sustainable donor mobilisation and self-sufficiency in national blood supplies.

Finally, recent contributions by Vidyborets et al. (2021) underscore the persistent challenge of transfusion-transmissible diseases, especially in the context of emerging infections. These studies reinforce the systemic interdependence between clinical research, regulatory frameworks, and educational initiatives aimed at ensuring both donor well-being and recipient safety.

In summary, the reviewed literature demonstrates a coherent scientific trajectory in transfusion medicine—ranging from cellular morphology to public health regulation—linking Ukrainian empirical evidence with global standards. The synthesis of international guidelines (AABB, WHO, EDQM) and domestic research forms the basis for developing integrated donor monitoring systems, aligning biomedical, epidemiological, and ethical dimensions of modern blood donation.

Results

All 135 first-time allogeneic blood donors were practically healthy and, based on the results of questionnaires, examinations by specialists and determination of haemoglobin content, were deemed eligible to donate blood. The results of the donated blood screening for markers of transfusion-transmissible infections were negative.

A detailed peripheral blood analysis was performed for all examined first-time allogeneic blood donors at the laboratory of the Blood Centre of the Armed Forces of Ukraine; the results are presented in the appendix ([Table 2](#)).

As can be seen from the data in Table 2, the mean haemoglobin concentration among the group of first-time allogeneic blood donors was 133.50 ± 1.99 g/l.

The mean haemoglobin concentration among the male donors was 138.13 ± 2.49 g/l, with individual variations ranging from 133 g/l to 143 g/l, whereas among the female donors it was 129.09 ± 1.51 g/l, with individual variations from 123 g/l to 135 g/l. The haemoglobin concentration in male donors was higher than that in female donors ($p < 0.001$).

The mean red blood cell (erythrocyte) count among the group of first-time donors was $(4.74 \pm 0.32) \times 10^{12}/l$. Among the examined male donors, the mean count was $(5.06 \pm 0.51) \times 10^{12}/l$, while among female donors it was $(4.43 \pm 0.13) \times 10^{12}/l$, with individual variations in men from $4.3 \times 10^{12}/l$ to $5.2 \times 10^{12}/l$, and in women from $4.0 \times 10^{12}/l$ to $4.8 \times 10^{12}/l$. The erythrocyte count in male donors was higher than in female donors ($p < 0.001$).

The mean leukocyte count in male donors was $(6.54 \pm 0.29) \times 10^9/l$, with individual variations from $4.5 \times 10^9/l$ to $8.6 \times 10^9/l$, whereas in female donors it was $(6.37 \pm 0.14) \times 10^9/l$, with variations from $4.9 \times 10^9/l$ to $8.0 \times 10^9/l$. Overall, in the group of first-time donors, the mean leukocyte count was $(6.45 \pm 0.21) \times 10^9/l$.

The mean platelet count among the group of first-time donors was $(227.73 \pm 2.44) \times 10^9/l$. Among male donors, the mean platelet count was $(241.18 \pm 2.54) \times 10^9/l$, while among female donors it was $(213.55 \pm 2.35) \times 10^9/l$, with individual variations in men from $202 \times 10^9/l$ to $253 \times 10^9/l$, and in women from $190 \times 10^9/l$ to $237 \times 10^9/l$.

As can be seen from Table 2, among the examined first-time allogeneic blood donors, we did not find a statistically significant difference in the mean leukocyte and platelet counts by sex ($p > 0.05$).

Below is a definition of the main indicators characterising the state of iron metabolism in the bodies of first-time allogeneic blood donors.

The *SI* concentration and the *TIBC* of serum were determined using the bathophenanthroline method. In determining *TIBC*, magnesium carbonate was used as the sorbent. The *UIBC* was calculated as the difference between *TIBC* and *SI*. *TS* with iron was determined as the ratio of *SI* to *TIBC* multiplied by 100%. The *Tf* content was assessed based on *TIBC*. The determination of *FN* content in blood serum was carried out using the radioimmunoassay method. The data on the analysis of the main indicators of iron metabolism in the plasma and serum of the examined first-time allogeneic blood donors are presented in the appendix ([Table 3](#)).

As shown in Table 3, the mean level of *SI* in the group of first-time donors was (20.38 ± 2.10) $\mu\text{mol/l}$. Among the examined male donors, this indicator averaged (22.75 ± 1.33) $\mu\text{mol/l}$, with individual variations ranging from 17.25 to 24.40 $\mu\text{mol/l}$, whereas in female donors it averaged (18.02 ± 1.30) $\mu\text{mol/l}$, with individual variations from 16.27 to 21.24 $\mu\text{mol/l}$. The *SH* content in male donors was higher than in female donors ($p < 0.01$).

The *TIBC* indicator in the group of first-time donors averaged (57.70 ± 2.51) $\mu\text{mol/l}$. In the examined male donors, this indicator was (56.72 ± 2.37) $\mu\text{mol/l}$, and (58.68 ± 2.20) $\mu\text{mol/l}$ in females, with individual variations in males ranging from 52.06 to 61.02 $\mu\text{mol/L}$, and from 54.83 to 62.03 $\mu\text{mol/l}$ in females. *TIBC* in female donors was higher than in male donors ($p < 0.01$).

The *UIBC* indicator in the examined male donors averaged (34.99 ± 4.08) $\mu\text{mol/l}$, with individual variations from 28.03 to 43.34 $\mu\text{mol/l}$, and (39.98 ± 3.54) $\mu\text{mol/L}$ in females, with individual variations from 34.16 to 45.62 $\mu\text{mol/l}$. Overall, in the group of first-time donors, *UIBC* amounted to (37.48 ± 4.35) $\mu\text{mol/l}$. *UIBC* in female donors was higher than in male donors ($p < 0.01$).

The iron *TS* indicator in the group of first-time donors averaged $(34.80 \pm 4.93)\%$. In the examined male donors, this indicator averaged $(36.58 \pm 4.74)\%$, and $(33.02 \pm 3.63)\%$ in females, with individual variations in males ranging from 28.62 to 46.11%, and from 26.39 to 38.31% in females. *TS* in male donors was higher than in female donors ($p < 0.01$).

The *Tf* content in the group of first-time donors averaged (2.24 ± 0.12) g/l. In the examined male donors, this indicator averaged (2.22 ± 0.11) g/l, and (2.25 ± 0.13) g/l in females, with individual variations in males ranging from 2.02 to 2.38 g/l, and from 2.14 to 2.50 g/l in females. The *Tf* content in female donors was higher than in male donors ($p < 0.01$).

The *FN* content in the examined male donors averaged (24.98 ± 2.10) $\mu\text{g/l}$, with individual variations from 20.17 to 30.60 $\mu\text{g/l}$, and (21.78 ± 1.17) $\mu\text{g/l}$ in females, with individual variations from 17.27 to 22.10 $\mu\text{g/l}$. Overall, in the group of first-time donors, *FN* content was (23.38 ± 2.19) $\mu\text{g/l}$. The *FN* content in male donors was higher than in female donors ($p < 0.001$).

Thus, the current research results have covered a larger cohort of first-time allogeneic blood donors compared to previous studies and can be used as control values for comparative analysis in future scientific research.

Discussion

The results obtained from the examination of 135 first-time allogeneic blood donors provide an important reference point for understanding baseline haematological and iron metabolism parameters in individuals who have not previously experienced blood loss through donation. The overall normality of red blood cell, leukocyte, and platelet indices indicates that all donors were within the physiological norm before donation, confirming the effectiveness of preliminary medical screening and compliance with the eligibility criteria set by international standards such as those of the AABB (2016) and the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare (Guide..., 2020). The absence of transfusion-transmissible infections among all participants further demonstrates the efficiency of the current donor selection and screening procedures established by the Ministry of Health of Ukraine (On Infectious Safety..., 2005; On Approval..., 2013).

The haemoglobin concentration results confirm the well-documented gender differences in haematological parameters. Male donors had significantly higher haemoglobin and erythrocyte counts compared with females ($p < 0.001$), which aligns with the findings of Derpak and Vydyborets (2019a; 2019b) and Chepurna and Vydyborets (2022). These differences are primarily attributed to the influence of androgens on erythropoiesis, greater total blood volume, and lower physiological iron loss among men. The values obtained in this study (mean 138.13 g/l for men and 129.09 g/l for women) are consistent with global averages for healthy adults reported by Weiss, Ganz, and Goodnough (2019). Importantly, no deviations were found that would indicate latent anaemia or pre-existing haematological abnormalities, suggesting that the selection criteria applied to first-time donors effectively ensure a high level of biological safety.

The mean leukocyte and platelet counts did not differ significantly between sexes, which corroborates the reference data presented by the AABB Technical Manual (Fung *et al.*, 2014). This stability indicates the absence of acute inflammatory or infectious processes and supports the assumption that haematopoietic balance was maintained across the study cohort. These results may serve as a normative reference for Ukrainian donor populations, considering local dietary and environmental factors that can influence haematological variability.

A detailed assessment of iron metabolism markers reveals physiologically plausible gender-specific distinctions. The significantly higher SI, TS, and FN levels among men ($p < 0.01$ – 0.001) compared with women reflect a well-established biological trend related to menstrual blood loss and differences in iron storage capacity. Conversely, higher TIBC, UIBC, and Tf levels in women indicate an adaptive response to relatively lower body iron stores. These findings are in full agreement with WHO recommendations (*Assessment of Iron Status...*, 2020) for evaluating iron status by ferritin levels and align with data from Vidborets and Derpak (2022), who emphasised the diagnostic importance of such indicators in assessing donor readiness and preventing iron deficiency after repeated donations.

Notably, the mean ferritin level among female donors (21.78 $\mu\text{g/l}$) was close to the lower limit of the normal range (20–200 $\mu\text{g/l}$), highlighting a potential vulnerability of women to iron depletion even before their first donation. This observation supports international evidence (Weiss *et al.*, 2019) indicating that premenopausal women are more susceptible to developing latent iron deficiency after repeated donations. Therefore, the current results underline the necessity of implementing preventive monitoring of iron metabolism in female donors, especially those with marginal ferritin levels before their first blood donation.

In comparison with previous Ukrainian studies (Derpak, 2009; Perekrstenko *et al.*, 2014), the present research expands the sample size and provides a more detailed biochemical characterisation of iron homeostasis. The use of both classical (bathophenanthroline) and immunoassay methods ensured a high degree of analytical precision, while the inclusion of both genders in statistically balanced groups allowed for a meaningful comparative analysis. These methodological advantages strengthen the validity of the findings and offer reliable control values for subsequent longitudinal studies on regular donors.

The obtained results have practical significance for optimising donor management and blood service operations. They confirm that most first-time donors begin the donation process with adequate iron stores and normal haematological parameters, which can serve as a baseline for post-donation monitoring. However, the demonstrated gender disparities in iron status

justify differentiated preventive recommendations, including dietary counselling, iron supplementation, or adjusted donation frequency for women. This approach is consistent with WHO's (*Blood Safety and Availability*, 2020) and AABB's (2016) strategic emphasis on maintaining donor health and preventing iron depletion as part of sustainable blood safety programmes.

In conclusion, this study contributes to the refinement of national reference values for haematological and biochemical indicators among first-time allogeneic donors. The observed parameters align with global physiological norms, validate current screening standards, and highlight the need for gender-sensitive strategies in donor health monitoring. Future research should focus on longitudinal tracking of repeated donors to assess post-donation recovery dynamics and identify early markers of iron deficiency, ensuring the long-term safety and sustainability of the donor pool in Ukraine.

Conclusion

Based on mathematical analysis, a positive correlation has been established between indicators of secondary metabolic disturbances in the examined donors and the main biochemical parameters of iron metabolism in primary allogeneic blood donors. These parameters can be used as reference values for comparative analysis in further scientific studies. The obtained results are recommended for use in developing practical guidelines regarding strategies for recruiting and retaining primary allogeneic blood donors who provide voluntary unpaid donations.

A promising direction is the search for new additional diagnostic criteria for iron metabolism disorders in primary allogeneic blood donors, as well as the study of secondary metabolic disturbances accompanying its deficiency.

It has been determined that when allowing subsequent donations, the levels of iron metabolism indicators in the plasma and serum of primary allogeneic blood donors—particularly ferritin—are worth considering. The results of the conducted studies allow for the formation of a risk group of blood donors based on informative biochemical characteristics of iron metabolism.

Conflict of Interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest.

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Appendix

Table 1. Age structure of examined primary allogeneic blood donors depending on age (n=125)

Age group of donors	Men (n)	Women (n)	Total (n)
Youth, 18–44 років	47	22	69
Average, 45–59 років	35	12	47
Old, 60–74 років	13	6	19
Total:	95	40	135

Table 2. peripheral blood parameters in primary allogeneic blood donors (M+m)

Indicator, unit of measurement	All donors (n=135)	Men (n=95)	Women (n=40)	Достовірність різниці (p)
Hemoglobin concentration, g/l	133,50±1,99	138,13±2,49	129,09±1,51	p<0,001
Number of red blood cells, 10 ¹² /l	4,74±0,32	5,06±0,51	4,43±0,13	p<0,001
Кількість лейкоцитів, 10 ⁹ /l	6,45±0,21	6,54±0,29	6,37±0,14	p>0,05
Кількість тромбоцитів, 10 ⁹ /l	227,73±2,44	241,18±2,54	213,55±2,35	p>0,05

Note: *p* is reliability of the difference between indicators depending on gender.

Table 3. indicators of iron metabolism in plasma and serum of primary allogeneic blood donors (M±m)

Indicator, unit of measurement	All donors (n=135)	Men (n=95)	Women (n=40)	Reliability of the difference (p)
<i>SI</i> , mmol/l	20,38±2,10	22,75±1,33	18,02±1,30	p<0,01
<i>TIBC</i> , mmol/l	57,70±2,51	56,72±2,37	58,68±2,20	p<0,01
<i>UIBC</i> , mmol/l	37,48±4,35	34,99±4,08	39,98±3,54	p<0,01
<i>TS</i> , %	34,80±4,93	36,58±4,74	33,02±3,63	p<0,01
<i>Tf</i> of serums, g/l	2,24±0,12	2,22±0,11	2,25±0,13	p<0,01
<i>FN</i> of serum, mcg/l	23,38±2,19	24,98±2,10	21,78±1,17	p<0,001

Note: *p* is reliability of the difference between indicators depending on gender.