Change Notification for the UK Blood Transfusion Services

No. 24 - 2023

Surgery

Revised entry

Changes are indicated using the key below. This formatting will not appear in the final entry.

original text

«inserted text»

deleted text

The following changes apply to:

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Bone Marrow & Peripheral Blood Stem Cell R-DSG

GL

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Tissue – Deceased Donor TI -DSG

Tissue -Live Donors WB-DSG

Whole Blood

Definition

Major Surgery «for the purposes of donor selection: Any surgical procedure where recovery is not achieved within two months.»

Any surgical procedure resulting in an inability to return to normal activities of daily living (e.g. routine housework, previous employment and/or driving) for six months or more.

«Recovery from surgery: Donors can be considered to be recovered if they:

- · are well,
- are back to activities of daily living (e.g. housework, employment, driving),
- have regained mobility.»

Obligatory

Must not donate if:

- a) For malignancy «or other condition that would preclude donation».
- b) All wounds are not healed.
- c) There «are signs or symptoms of» is any infection.
- d) «Not fully recovered» Normal mobility has not been regained.
- e) Less than «four» six months «after» from major surgery.
- f) Less than seven days «after» from other surgery.
- g) Requiring post-operative treatment or «follow-up that might indicate further intervention is required, excluding routine follow-up or physiotherapy» attending hospital regularly.
- «h) If waiting for surgery that is:
 - · expected to occur within three months, or
 - required due to possible malignancy or other condition that would preclude donation.
- i) Less than seven days after completing postoperative prophylactic anticoagulant treatment.»

Discretionary 1. Malignancy: If for Cervical Carcinoma in Situ (CIN) or Basal Cell Carcinoma and all other criteria are fulfilled, accept. 2. Major surgery: a) If more than four months from the procedure and NAT for HCV is performed, accept. (a)» (b) If less than four months from the (major surgical) procedure, discuss with the «DCSO» Designated Medical Officer who will decide if the donor may be accepted on a balance of risks following discussion with the Transplant Centre. «b) If the donor is waiting for surgery that is not required for possible malignancy, and: the procedure is not expected to take place within three months, the procedure is minimally invasive, and it is not expected to take place within one month, accept. c) If it is less than three months since any surgical procedure performed outside of the UK and ROI, and all other criteria for surgery performed within the UK and ROI are met, discuss with the DCSO. See additional information.» See if Relevant Anaesthetic «Anticoagulant Therapy» Basal Cell Carcinoma Cervical Carcinoma in Situ «Dental Treatment» Neurosurgery Ocular Surgery Tissue and Organ Recipients Transfusion **Xenotransplantation** Additional Information Surgery may cause significant blood loss. It is important that donors waiting for an operation should not be put at risk of anaemia or poor iron stores by donating prior to planned surgery. Unless the type of surgery planned is unlikely to result in significant blood loss the donor should be deferred until after their planned surgery. This will minimize their own chance of needing a transfusion, which would of course prevent them from continuing as a donor. It is also important not to hinder the recovery of the donor. This requires waiting until they are fully recovered before they donate again. Surgery may place the donor at risk of infection, either from unhealed wounds or due to infection risks from infected staff or equipment. Although these risks are very small it is important to wait long enough for the risks to have gone or until the tests performed by the Blood & Tissues Services can pick up any infection that they test for that may have been transmitted to the donor by surgery. «The entry has been revised to include a definition of recovery and amendment of the definition of major surgery. The deferral after major surgery has been shortened. Specific guidance for, donors awaiting surgery and postoperative thromboprophylaxis has been added. As there may be uncertainty about additional risks for surgery performed outside of the UK and ROI, which may vary between countries, referral to DCSO for individual risk assessment is advised.»

Reason for Change

«Definition of major surgery changed. 'Obligatory', 'Discretionary' and 'Additional Information' sections updated. 'See if Relevant' links added.»

To provide a more accurate definition of 'major surgery' that reflects current clinical practice in the NHS.

Jeg 2025

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