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Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 12 - 2014

Mental Health Problems

Applies to the Tissue Donor Selection Guidelines Live Donors, Cord Blood Donor Selection Guidelines and Bone Marrow and PBSC Donor Selection Guidelines

Please modify the entry as follows:

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| Obligatory | Must not donate if: Not able to fully understand and consent to the donation process and to the testing of their blood for diseases that may affect its suitability for use. |
| See if relevant | <u>Communication Difficulties</u> |
| Additional Information | Many people have mental health problems that can be controlled with regular medication. Providing individuals are well on the day of donation and have the mental capacity to give full informed consent, there is no reason why they cannot donate whether on medication or not. Individuals who are over anxious, depressed, manic or psychotic cannot always give valid consent, or fully understand why they are being asked certain questions. |
| Reason for change | To ensure that all donors with mental health conditions can donate if they are well enough to do so and have the mental capacity to give full informed consent. |

Mental Health Problems

Applies to the Tissue Donor Selection Guidelines Deceased Donors

Please modify the entry as follows:

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| Obligatory | If the donor has had a new mental health problem within the last 12 months, or their condition has deteriorated in the last 12 months: Refer to a Designated Medical Officer |
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| Discretionary | If the donor has known mental health problems and has been stable in the last 12 months, whether on medication or not, accept. |
| See if relevant | <u>Central Nervous System Disease</u> <u>Rabies</u> |
| Additional Information | Many people have mental health problems that can be controlled with regular medication. There is no reason why they cannot donate whether on medication or not provided a firm diagnosis has been made and their condition has not deteriorated in the last 12 months. It is important to exclude other central nervous system disease including prion disease and rabies, which could present as new or deteriorating mental health problems. |
| Reason for change | The entry has been changed to allow donors with known mental health conditions at the time of death to be accepted. 'Additional information' has been added. |

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