

Issued by JPAC: 27 August 2019

Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 13 - 2019

Pre- and Post Exposure Prophylaxis for HIV (HIV PrEP/PEP)

These changes apply to all Cell and Tissue Donor Selection Guidelines

This is a new entry:

Obligatory

Must not donate if:

Donor has taken Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) or Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) in the previous three months.

Assess any donor using PrEP or PEP for tissue safety risks relating to sexual activity.

Discretionary

If it is over three months since use of PrEP or PEP and there is no other tissue safety risk, accept

See if Relevant

[Tissues Safety Entry](#)

[HIV](#)

[Homosexual and Bisexual Individuals](#)

[Human Bite](#)

Additional Information

The use of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), e.g. Truvada®, to prevent HIV is increasing. Patients taking PrEP are unlikely to be eligible to donate due to tissue safety guidelines. However, PrEP is also available via private prescription and/or online pharmacies and may be used by individuals who would not otherwise be deferred.

Use of PrEP may interfere with testing for HIV by delaying seroconversion or giving unclear results in a positive donor. For this reason, it is important that donors who have taken PrEP in the previous three months are not accepted to donate, even if they do not have another tissue safety risk.

Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) has a similar mechanism of action to PrEP and may also interfere with testing results. In the UK PEP is prescribed to people who have been exposed to someone who may have HIV. This includes through sexual activity or exposure through a needle stick injury. Donors who have received PEP will usually be ineligible to donate for the same reason they were given PEP.

If the underlying reason for taking PrEP or PEP warrants a longer deferral period, this should be applied.

This guidance will be updated as more information about the use and effects of PrEP/PEP becomes available.

Reason for Change

This is a new entry

SmacLennan

Dr Sheila MacLennan

Professional Director - Joint UKBTS Professional Advisory Committee

☎ Direct Dial: (0113) 820 8638

✉ sheila.maclennan@nhsbt.nhs.uk