

Issued by JPAC: 21 April 2020

Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 20 2020

Granulocytes, Apheresis

Applies to the Guidelines for the Blood Transfusion Services in the United Kingdom 8th Edition 2013

Granulocytes, Apheresis was a specified component within the Red Book (Chapter 7, 7.13).

From February 2018 NHSBT ceased providing apheresis granulocytes as part of its portfolio as there had been infrequent requests, numerous issues with collections and it was considered that the risk was too high to continue to supply. Moreover, the hydroxyethyl starch solution used could no longer be sourced in the UK.

All 4 UK blood services, plus Ireland, confirmed that none now supply Apheresis Granulocytes to hospitals. It was also confirmed that the main non-UKBTS Blood Establishment known to previously collect apheresis granulocytes also ceased collecting.

JPAC approved the removal of the Granulocyte, Apheresis specification from Chapter 7 to the new section "Annex 4 Redundant Components" where this, and any future redundant components can be posted for reference.

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