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**Implementation:** To be determined by each Service

## Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 31 - 2009

### Relenza (Zanamivir)

Applies to the following Donor Selection Guidelines:

- Bone Marrow and Peripheral Blood Stem Cell
- Cord Blood

**Obligatory**

**Must not donate if:**

- a) Taking relenza as treatment for influenza.
- b) At any time in the seven days prior to, or whilst taking relenza, the donor has had symptoms of influenza (a temperature of greater than 38 °C, or a history of fever and two or more of the following symptoms: cough, headache, runny nose, diarrhoea/ vomiting)

**Discretionary**

If the potential donor is taking relenza as prophylaxis, has not been advised to be confined to home, and has had no symptoms of influenza, accept.

**See if Relevant**

Infection – Acute

**Additional Information**

Relenza is a viral neuraminidase inhibitor (neuraminidase is an enzyme that helps the virus spread from cell to cell). It is used for post-exposure prophylaxis of influenza. It appears to be a very safe drug with little evidence for teratogenic (potential to cause birth defects) or mutagenic (potential to cause malignancy) effect.

**Reason for Change**

This is a new entry.



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