

Issued by JPAC: 31st May 2022

Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 40 - 2022

Monkeypox

These changes apply to the Whole Blood and Component Selection Guidelines

40.1 Monkeypox

Please add the following entry:

1. Affected Individuals	
<i>Obligatory:</i>	Must not donate
<i>Discretionary:</i>	<p>If the donor has recovered from confirmed or suspected Monkeypox (MPX) infection and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is at least 28 days since the diagnosis of MPX was made, and • It is at least 14 days since recovery and the donor remains well, and • It is at least 14 days since all skin lesions have healed, and • It is more than seven days since completing any antiviral or antibiotic therapy, and • The donor has been discharged from all follow up (including public health surveillance) <p>accept</p>
<i>Additional Information</i>	<p>MPX is endemic in some African countries. During 2022 a multi-country outbreak was identified with cases in the UK, Europe, North America and other regions.</p> <p>The incubation period of MPX is up to 21 days. The initial symptom are fever, myalgia, fatigue and headache. These symptoms are followed by a rash starting from the site of the primary infection, this rash develops into vesicles and pustule followed by scabs. Infectivity may start during initial symptoms and lasts until the rash clears and all scabs have dropped off.</p> <p>Staff should be alert for donors who report rashes and illnesses consistent with monkeypox, regardless of sexual behaviour, travel history or other risk factors.</p>
<i>Reason for change</i>	New entry
2. Contact with an individual with Monkeypox	
<i>Includes</i>	Individuals who have been identified by public health teams as a close contact of an individual with Monkeypox
<i>Obligatory:</i>	Must not donate

<i>Discretionary:</i>	<p>If it is more than 21 days since last contact and,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the donor has no symptoms of monkeypox and • the donor has completed any isolation period, and • the donor has been discharged from all follow-up (including surveillance by public health), <p>accept.</p> <p>See additional information below for donors who received vaccination.</p>
<i>Additional information</i>	<p>MPX does not spread easily between people. Human-to-human transmission occurs through contact with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • infectious material from skin lesions • respiratory droplets in prolonged face-to-face contact • virus-contaminated objects such as bedding or clothing <p>During the 2022 multi-country outbreak, the predominance of cases among men who have sex with men and the distribution of the MPX skin rash at presentation, suggests MPX transmission is associated with direct contact during sex.</p> <p>Contacts may have received Imvanex, a third generation Smallpox vaccination, to reduce the risk of serious illness. Imvanex is a live attenuated non-replicating vaccination. For donor selection purposes this should be assessed as a non-live vaccine. Recipients of Imvanex are eligible to donate once they satisfy the requirements of the discretionary entry above.</p>
<i>Reason for Change</i>	New entry

A-Z index changes

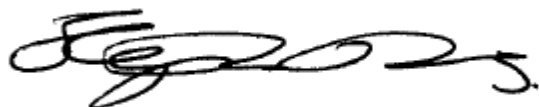
Please add the following keywords to direct to this new entry:

- Monkeypox
- Imvanex

40.2 Appendix 4: Management of post donation illness

Please add the following entry to the Infections table:

Infection	Incubation Period	Actions for donation
Monkeypox	21 days	Discard up to 21 days. Follow local processes for public health notification if the component has been transfused. If the donor has reported contact with Monkeypox in the 21 days before donation, place the donation on hold and seek public health advice to determine the risk.



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