

Change Notification for the UK Blood Transfusion Services

Date of Issue: 31 July 2024 **Implementation:** to be determined by each Service

No. 16 – 2024

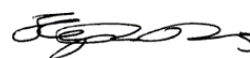
Drugs and Platelet Donation

This notification includes the following changes:

	BM-DSG Bone Marrow & Peripheral Blood Stem Cell	CB-DSG Cord Blood	GDRI Geographical Disease Risk Index	TD-DSG Tissue - Deceased Donors	TL-DSG Tissue - Live Donors	WB-DSG Whole Blood & Components	Red Book Guidelines for the BTS in the UK
1. Drugs and Platelet Donation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Drug Index	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Dr Angus Wells
Chair of Standing Advisory Committee on Care & Selection of Donors (SACCSD)



Dr Stephen Thomas
Professional Director of JPAC

Changes are indicated using the key below. This formatting will not appear in the final entry.

original text	«inserted text»	deleted text
---------------	-----------------	-------------------------

1. Changes apply to the **Whole Blood and Components DSG**

~~**Index of Drugs affecting Platelet Function**~~

~~This index allows the user to identify drugs that can significantly alter platelet function. It may not be completely comprehensive and does not list any other type of drug.~~

~~A donation should not be taken for apheresis or pooled platelet production if the donor has taken a drug listed in this index within the previous 48 hours.~~

~~These rules do not apply to drugs applied topically as creams or gels. Donors who have used topical products can be accepted for platelets immediately.~~

~~Further information can be found at the [Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs](#) topic.~~

«**Drugs and Platelet Donations**»

Principles

Some drugs can alter platelet function for several hours or days after they are taken.

If a donor is otherwise eligible to donate but has taken a drug affecting platelets in the 48 hours prior to donation, their donation should not be used to manufacture blood components that are intended to treat thrombocytopenia or platelet dysfunction; this includes apheresis platelets, pooled platelets and some whole blood components.

This rule applies to drugs taken systemically, i.e. medication that is taken orally or rectally, or medication that is taken by injection.

This rule does not apply to creams or gels applied topically to the skin. Donors who have used topical medications which are listed in this index, can be accepted for platelets immediately.

Drugs which affect platelet function are usually taken as painkillers and anti-inflammatory medications. Some can be purchased directly from shops or pharmacies without a prescription. They may be sold under their generic drug name (e.g. aspirin, ibuprofen) or they may be sold under a brand name.

This entry lists Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) and other painkillers which affect platelet function. It does not include every medication which could affect platelets. Some drugs, such as clopidogrel, have not been included because a donor taking them would not be eligible to donate anyway.

How to use this index

If a donor reports taking anti-inflammatory or pain-killing medication, but has been assessed as eligible to donate, their medication must be checked against this entry.

The entry has been redrafted to list only generic drug names and no longer includes brand names. This is because some brand names are used for several formulations, not all of which contain the same active drugs. It is important that staff confirm the exact drug taken by a donor.

Up-to-date product information for branded medications available in the UK can be found online at www.gov.uk/government/organisations/medicines-and-healthcare-products-regulatory-agency, bnf.nice.org.uk and www.medicines.org.uk/emc. If there is doubt about the active drug in any individual branded product, staff should apply the 48 hour rule for platelet production.

Post donation information

Donors may contact the blood service to report they had taken NSAIDs before their donation. If any blood components containing therapeutic platelets have been manufactured from the donor's blood, these should be discarded. If such components have been transfused, a DCSO should assess the need to notify the treating clinician.»

2. Changes apply to the **Whole Blood and Components DSG**

The current Drug Index will be updated to include only the following:

A

Acelofenac
Acemetacin
Aspirin
Azaproprazone

C

Celecoxib

D

Dexketoprofen
Diclofenac potassium
Diclofenac sodium

E

Etodolac
Etoricoxib

F

Felbinac
Fenbufen
Fenoprofen
Flurbiprofen

I

Ibuprofen
Indometacin

K

Ketoprofen
Ketorolac trometamol

M

Mefenamic acid
Meloxicam

N

Nabumetone
Naproxen

P

Parecoxib
Piroxicam

S

Sulindac

T

Tenoxicam
Tiaprofenic acid
Tolfenamic acid

3. Changes apply to the **Whole Blood and Components DSG**

Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (revised entry)

<i>Also Known As</i>	NSAIDs or nonsteroidals.
<i>Obligatory</i>	<p>Assess the reason for treatment and see if there is a relevant index entry.</p> <p>1. Must not donate if: Taken for a serious long-term illness including cardiovascular disease.</p> <p>2. Platelets: «If the donor has taken a NSAID drug in the 48 hours before attending, their donation must not be used for the preparation of platelets and other blood components intended to treat thrombocytopenia and/or platelet dysfunction.»</p> <p>Donations must not be used for preparing platelets if aspirin, aspirin-containing medicines, piroxicam (Feldene® and Brexidol®) or other NSAIDs (see the <u>Drug Index</u>) have been taken in the last 48 hours.</p>
<i>Discretionary</i>	If medication is self-prescribed «, the donation will not be used to prepare platelets and other blood components intended to treat thrombocytopenia and/or platelet dysfunction» and the donor meets all other criteria, for red-cell donation only , accept.
<i>See if Relevant</i>	<u>Cardiovascular Disease</u> <u>Drug Index</u> - preparations which may affect platelet function
<i>Additional Information</i>	<p>Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs can stop platelets (small fragments of cells that help control bleeding) from working properly. «Platelets may be manufactured from whole blood or component (apheresis) donations. Blood Services may produce other components that included functional platelets, including some forms of whole blood.» Some packs of blood are used to make platelet packs. As these are used to control or prevent bleeding in patients, it is essential that they do not include platelets affected by nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.</p> <p>Taking these drugs will not affect the use of a donation for red cell transfusion (the commonest use) but the reason they are being taken might.</p>
<i>Reason for Change</i>	<p>«The entry has been revised to add reference to other blood components that contain active platelets.»</p> <p>The deferral period for donors taking aspirin-containing medicines or piroxicam (Feldene® and Brexidol®) where donations are used to make platelets has been reduced to 48 hours.</p>