

Change Notification for the UK Blood Transfusion Services

Date of Issue: 26 November 2024

Implementation: to be determined by each Service

No. 51 – 2024

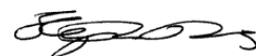
Migraine and Topiramate

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. Migraine	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Valproate and Topiramate	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Mental Health Problems	<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**

Migraine

(revised entry)

<p><i>Obligatory</i></p>	<p>Must not donate if: «1. Migraine is severe. 2. Migraine occurs more than once a week.» 1. Migraine is severe and occurs more than once a week. «3. On prophylactic treatment with sodium valproate (valproic acid), topiramate or a monoclonal antibody therapy.» 2. On prophylaxis with sodium valproate or valproic acid.</p>
<p><i>Discretionary</i></p>	<p>«If the donor’s migraine is not severe, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it occurs less than once per week, and any treatment does not preclude donation, accept.» <p>Providing the migraine is not severe and occurs less than once a week, even if on prophylactic treatment (except valproate/valproic acid), accept.</p>
<p><i>See if Relevant</i></p>	<p>Headache «Monoclonal antibody therapy and other Biological Modalities» «Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs» Valproate «and Topiramate»</p>
<p><i>Additional Information</i></p>	<p>Migraine is caused by a disturbance in the normal blood flow to parts of the brain. In its more severe «Severe» forms it can be «associated with focal neurological signs and symptoms, such as hemiplegia, or result in the frequency and duration of symptoms limiting normal activities.» severely disabling.</p> <p>By not accepting people with the more severe forms of migraine we hope to prevent precipitating an attack through the process of donating blood.</p> <p>«Care should be taken to assess any medication the donor has taken, either as prophylaxis or as relief for a migraine. Such medication may include Valproate, Topiramate or new monoclonal antibody treatments that may mean the donor is not eligible to donate.</p> <p>Monoclonal antibody (MAb) therapy may be given to patients with frequent migraine where other preventative treatment has failed. MAb therapies are given by injection or by infusion. They include Eptinezumab (Vyepti®), Erenumab (Aimovig®), Fremanezumab (Ajovy®), Galcanezumab (Emgality®).»</p> <p>Any donor who has had severe migraine associated with giving blood on more than one occasion should be advised not to continue as a donor.</p>
<p><i>Reason for Change</i></p>	<p>«The entry has been revised including the addition of an obligatory deferral for prophylaxis with topiramate or monoclonal antibody therapy. The ‘See if Relevant’ section has been updated.» Addition of an obligatory deferral for treatment with valproate and a link to the Valproate entry.</p>
<p><i>Donor Information</i></p>	<p>If you wish to obtain more information regarding a personal medical issue, please contact your National Help Line.</p> <p>Please do not contact this web site for personal medical queries, as we are not in a position to provide individual answers.</p>

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

Valproate «and Topiramate» (renamed and revised entry)

<i>Obligatory</i>	Must not donate.
<i>Discretionary</i>	If it is more than seven days since the last dose of valproate «or topiramate», and the reason for therapy does not preclude donation, accept.
<i>Additional Information</i>	<p>Sodium valproate (Epilim®, Episenta®) and the related drugs valproic acid (Depakote®, Convulex®) are anticonvulsant medications used in the treatment of epilepsy. They are also used for treatment of bipolar disorder and as prophylaxis for migraine.</p> <p>«Topiramate (Topamax®) is an anticonvulsant medication used in the treatment of epilepsy and as prophylaxis for migraine.»</p> <p>Exposure during pregnancy «to either valproate or topiramate» is a known cause of birth defects. As it is not possible to know whether an individual donation will be transfused to a pregnant woman, donors taking any form of sodium valproate «,» or valproic acid «or topiramate» must be deferred until at least one week after stopping treatment.</p>
<i>Reason for Change</i>	<p>«A deferral has been added for donors taking topiramate. The name of the entry has been updated to reflect this.»</p> <p>This is a new entry.</p>
<i>Donor Information</i>	<p>If you wish to obtain more information regarding a personal medical issue, please contact your National Help Line.</p> <p>Please do not contact this web site for personal medical queries, as we are not in a position to provide individual answers.</p>

The following redirection will be added to the **A-Z index**:

Topiramate » Valproate and Topiramate

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

Mental Health Problems

(revised entry)

<i>Obligatory</i>	<p>Must not donate if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not able to fully understand and consent to the donation process and to the testing of their blood for diseases that may affect its suitability for use. 2. On treatment with sodium valproate or valproic acid.
<i>See if Relevant</i>	<p><u>Communication Difficulties</u> <u>Valproate «and Topiramate»</u></p>
<i>Additional Information</i>	<p>Many people have mental health problems that are controlled with regular medication. Providing individuals are well on the day of donation and have the mental capacity to give full informed consent, there is no reason why they cannot donate whether on medication or not.</p> <p>Individuals who are over-anxious, depressed, manic or psychotic cannot always give valid consent, or fully understand why they are being asked certain questions.</p> <p>Occasionally donors are on medication such as Clozapine and are under close monitoring. They should be accepted as long as they pass the Hb test.</p>
<i>Reason for Change</i>	<p>«Link updated from 'Valproate' to 'Valproate and Topiramate' in the 'See if Relevant' section.»</p> <p>Addition of an obligatory deferral for treatment with valproate and a link to the Valproate entry.</p>
<i>Donor Information</i>	<p>If you wish to obtain more information regarding a personal medical issue, please contact your <u>National Help Line</u>.</p> <p>Please do not contact this web site for personal medical queries, as we are not in a position to provide individual answers.</p>