

Date of publication: 30th October 2017

Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 29 - 2017

This change applies to the Whole Blood and Component Donor Selection Guidelines

Body Piercing

Please make changes to the current entry as shown below.

Including

Derma-rolling, ear and body piercing, permanent and semi-permanent make-up and tattooing (including memorial tattoos).

Obligatory

Must not donate if:

Less than ~~four~~ 42 months from last piercing.

Discretionary

~~a) If after four months, a validated test for hepatitis B core antibody is negative, accept.~~

b) Painting, stencilling or transfers applied to the skin without piercing, accept.

Additional Information

Piercing has passed infection from person to person. Waiting ~~four~~ 42 months helps to ensure that the infections tested for by the Blood and Tissues Services will be picked up.

This guidance presumes that a validated NAT test for hepatitis C is negative. If this test is stopped, the guidance will change. ~~During the recovery phase of HBV infection, levels of free HBsAg may be too low to detect and antibody to hepatitis B core antigen may be the only indicator of infectivity~~

Information

Part of this entry is a requirement of the Blood Safety and Quality Regulations 2005.

Reason for change

~~The guidance on the requirement for Hep B Core testing was changed to incorporate the recommendations from the SaBTO report published on 23 July 2017. Expert advisors have agreed that a validated NAT for Hepatitis B is negative that there is no longer a requirement for Hep B Core tests to be performed.~~

This entry was updated in line with the recommendations of the SaBTO Donor Selection Criteria Review Report published on 23rd July 2017.

Update Information

This entry was last updated in DSG-WB Edition xxx, Release xx.

Donor Information

If you wish to obtain more information regarding a personal medical issue please contact your [National Help Line](#).

Please do not contact this web site for personal medical queries, as we are not in a position to provide individual answers.

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