

## Change Notification for the UK Blood Transfusion Services

**Date of Issue:** 31 January 2023

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

Donor Selection Guidelines:

«Mpox (Monkeypox)» ~~Monkeypox~~

No. 04 – 2023

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

original text

«inserted text»

~~deleted text~~

The following changes apply to:

<b>BM-DSG</b> Bone Marrow & Peripheral Blood Stem Cell	<b>CB-DSG</b> Cord Blood	<b>GDRI</b> Geographical Disease Risk Index	<b>TD-DSG</b> Tissue – Deceased Donors	<b>TL-DSG</b> Tissue – Live Donors	<b>WB-DSG</b> Whole Blood & Components
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1. Affected individuals	
<i>Obligatory</i>	<b>Must not donate.</b>
<i>Discretionary</i>	<p>If the donor has recovered from confirmed or suspected «Mpox» <del>Monkeypox (MPX)</del> infection and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is at least 28 days since the diagnosis of «Mpox» <del>MPX</del> was made, and</li> <li>It is at least 14 days since recovery and the donor remains well, and</li> <li>It is at least 14 days since all skin lesions have healed, and</li> <li>It is more than seven days since completing any antiviral or antibiotic therapy, and</li> <li>The donor has been discharged from all follow up (including public health surveillance),</li> </ul> <p>accept.</p>
<i>Additional Information</i>	<p><del>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.</del></p> <p><del>The incubation period of MPX is up to 21 days. The initial symptoms 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.</del></p> <p><del>Staff should be alert for donors who report rashes and illnesses consistent with monkeypox, regardless of sexual behaviour, travel history or other risk factors.</del></p>

<b>2. Contact with an individual with «Mpox» <i>Monkeypox</i></b>	
<i>Includes</i>	Individuals who have been identified by public health teams as a close contact of an individual with «Mpox» <i>Monkeypox</i> .
<i>Obligatory</i>	<b>Must not donate.</b>
<i>Discretionary</i>	<p>If it is more than 21 days since last contact and,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the donor has no symptoms of «Mpox» <i>monkeypox</i> and</li> <li>the donor has completed any isolation period, and</li> <li>the donor has been discharged from all follow-up (including surveillance by public health), «and</li> <li><b>the donor fulfils the criteria in section 3 below regarding vaccination if applicable,»</b></li> </ul> <p>accept.</p> <p><i>See additional information below for donors who received vaccination.</i></p>
<i>Additional Information</i>	<p><i>MPX does not spread easily between people. Human-to-human transmission occurs through contact with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>— infectious material from skin lesions</i></li> <li><i>— respiratory droplets in prolonged face-to-face contact</i></li> <li><i>— virus-contaminated objects such as bedding or clothing</i></li> </ul> <p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>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.</i></p>
<b>«3. Immunisation for contact or risk</b>	
<i>Excludes</i>	Individuals who have received vaccination because they work in a health care setting – see section 4 below.
<i>Obligatory</i>	<b>Must not donate.</b>
<i>Discretionary</i>	<p>If the donor fulfils the criteria in section 2 above and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it is more than four weeks since the most recent dose of a non-live or attenuated smallpox vaccination e.g. Imvanex, and</li> <li>the course of vaccination (if more than one dose) is complete,</li> </ul> <p>accept.</p>

<b>4. Immunisation – no known contact</b>	
<i>Includes</i>	Individuals who have received vaccination because they work in a health care setting.
<i>Discretionary</i>	An individual who has received routine vaccination with Imvanex or another third-generation smallpox vaccination in an occupational setting, can be accepted provided that they are not deemed to be at risk due to an exposure episode.»
<i>See if Relevant</i>	Immunisation
<i>Additional Information</i>	<p><b>Mpox was previously known as Monkeypox. In November 2022, WHO recommended Mpox as the new name for Monkeypox disease. Mpox 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.</b></p> <p>The incubation period of Mpox 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 Mpox, regardless of sexual behaviour, travel history or other risk factors.</p> <p>Mpox does not spread easily between people. Human-to-human transmission occurs through contact with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• infectious material from skin lesions</li> <li>• respiratory droplets in prolonged face-to-face contact</li> <li>• virus-contaminated objects such as bedding or clothing</li> </ul> <p>During the 2022 multi-country outbreak, the predominance of cases among men who have sex with men and the distribution of the Mpox skin rash at presentation, suggests Mpox transmission is associated with direct contact during sex.</p> <p>Contacts may have received vaccination, to reduce the risk of serious illness. Usually vaccination will be with Imvanex or other third generation vaccine against smallpox. Contacts are eligible to donate once they satisfy the requirements of Sections 2 and 3 above.</p> <p>Health care workers may also have received vaccination to protect against Mpox in the event of possible exposure to monkeypox during their work. They will be working in accordance with Infection Prevention and Control policies and with suitable Personal Protective Equipment, which if not breached means they are eligible to donate.</p> <p>Other recipients of vaccination for Mpox must be assessed according to section 3 above.</p> <p>Imvanex is a live attenuated non-replicating third generation Smallpox vaccination. For donor selection purposes this can be assessed as a non-live vaccine but primarily donors must be assessed according to their individual risk of exposure to Mpox. The deferral of some donors for four weeks from the date of a non-live vaccination allows symptoms of Mpox from prior exposure to become evident (incubation period up to 21 days) and encompasses the time for maximum efficacy of the</p>

	<b>immunisation (up to four weeks). Donors should be deferred until completion of a course of vaccination.»</b>
<i>Reason for Change</i>	<b><i>New-Entry</i></b> <b>«The title and contents have been updated with the new name as recommended by WHO.</b> <b>Inclusion of sections for donors who have received vaccination either because they are or could be a contact or because they work in a health care setting.</b> <b>Additional Information applicable for the whole entry contained within one section.»</b>

## Mpox (Monkeypox) – other WB-DSG changes:

### 1. A-Z Index

Add the following entry to the index:

- Mpox see: Mpox (Monkeypox)

Revise the following entries in the index:

- Monkeypox see: Mpox (Monkeypox)
- Imvanex see: Mpox (Monkeypox)

### 2. Appendix 2 – Table of Immunisations

Amend the following table entries:

Diseases Protected Against	Comments and example of trade names of adult preparation	
<b>«Mpox (formerly known as Monkeypox»</b> <i>Monkeypox</i>	During the 2022 «Mpox» <i>Monkeypox</i> outbreak, contacts of «Mpox» <i>Monkeypox</i> cases may receive Imvanex, a live attenuated non-replicating Smallpox vaccine. For donor selection purposes this should be assessed as a non-live vaccine. See DSG entry for «Mpox» <i>Monkeypox</i> .	Non-live
<b>Smallpox</b>	<b>Note this live vaccine requires an 8-week deferral. If given, see DSG entry for Smallpox Immunization.</b> <b>See also «Mpox» <i>Monkeypox</i>.</b>	Live



**Dr Stephen Thomas**  
Professional Director – JPAC

[jpac@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:jpac@nhsbt.nhs.uk)