

<b>Issued by JPAC:</b> 25 February 2015	<b>Implementation:</b> To be determined by each Service
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## Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 8 - 2015

### Complementary Therapy

**Applies to the Tissue Donor Selection Guidelines for Live Donors, Tissue Donor Selection Guidelines for Deceased Donors, Cord Blood Donor Selection Guidelines, and Bone Marrow and PBSC Donor Selection Guidelines**

Please modify the entries as follows:

**Obligatory**

**1. Must not donate if:**

The condition for which treatment was given is not acceptable.

**2. Therapies involving penetration by needles:**

**Must not donate if:**

Less than four months from completing treatment.

**Discretionary**

a) If oral or topical complementary medicines only and reason for which treatment was given is acceptable, accept

**b) Therapies involving penetration by needles:**

**1. Performed within the NHS**

If performed by a suitably qualified NHS healthcare professional on NHS premises, accept.

**2. Performed outside of the NHS**

If performed by a Qualified Health Care Professional registered with the: General Medical Council (GMC), Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC), General Dental Council (GDC), The General Chiropractic Council (GCC), The General Optical Council (GOC), The General Osteopathic Council (GOsC), or The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) (which regulates: Arts therapists, Biomedical Scientists, Chiropodists/ Podiatrists, Clinical Scientists, Dieticians, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Occupational Therapists, Operating Department Practitioners, Orthoptists, Paramedics, Pharmacists, Practitioner Psychologists, Physiotherapists, Prosthetists and Orthotists, Radiographers, Social Workers in England and Speech and Language Therapists), accept.

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**Additional Information** Equipment that has been reused has passed infection from person to person. Therapists who are subject to discipline from statutorily constituted professional authorities are unlikely to re-use needles.

This guidance presumes that a validated NAT test for hepatitis C is negative, if this test is stopped for any reason the guidance will change.

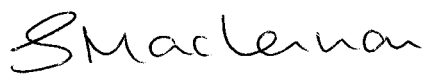
When there is any doubt about infection being passed on, waiting four months means infections are more likely to be picked up by the tests used by Blood & Tissue Services.

JPAC considers statutory registration of practitioners to afford the best overall guarantee that tissues and cells donated by individuals who have undertaken complementary therapy is safe. In the absence of statutory regulation of complementary therapy, there is currently no single body to which all therapists are accredited, and so to continue with the approval of one or more organisations would necessarily mean that others of possibly equal merit were excluded from approval.

Voluntary registration with a non-statutory body cannot provide assurance as to how high the standards of an organisation's members are or how diligent the non-statutory regulator is in enforcing them or the practitioner in applying them. Practitioners who choose not to join a voluntary register are still able to practise legally and to use the relevant title, as will a practitioner who has been removed from the register by the registering body.

There is no way of policing the enforcement by voluntary associations of the standards they require of their members as the organisations are not subject to supervision by the Council for Regulatory Healthcare Excellence (CHRE). Nor is there currently any external, independent consideration of "fitness to practise" cases referred to voluntary regulators. While statutory regulation cannot guarantee the absence of risk, its primary aim is to deliver enhanced patient safety and public protection. Statutory "protection of title" means that donor centres can safely assume that a person who practises in the name of the registered profession is actually registered.

**Reason for Change** Details about the Health and Care Professions Council have been updated. Relevant information that was included in the previous 'Reasons for Change' section has been added to the 'Additional Information' section. The term 'acupuncture' has been replaced with the term 'complementary therapy', and the link to the 'Acupuncture' entry removed as it was redundant. Clarification that complementary therapies delivered orally or topically are acceptable has been added.



Dr Sheila MacLennan  
Professional Director - Joint UKBTS Professional Advisory Committee  
Direct Dial: (0113) 820 8638 ✉ sheila.maclennan@nhsbt.nhs.uk