

Date of publication: 31 July 2014

Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 38 - 2014

Sex Change

Applies to the Bone Marrow and PBSC Donor Selection Guidelines

Please modify the entry as follows:

Discretionary

Accept

Assessment of haemoglobin concentration should be according to the gender assigned

See if Relevant

Tissues Safety Entry
Homosexual and Bisexual Individuals
Surgery

Additional Information

A careful and sympathetic consideration of sexual risk factors needs to be undertaken. There is no specific restriction regarding donation for male-sex-with-male behaviour, but it should be documented to facilitate an in depth discussion should the donor be a potential match for a patient. This ensures that the current practice of individual risk/benefit assessment prior to donation is continued.

The guidance has been changed in line with recommendations from the Advisory Committee on the Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs (SaBTO). The recommendations have been noted by the English Department of Health and the devolved authorities in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

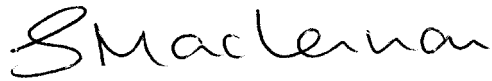
Assessment of haemoglobin concentration should be according to the gender assigned. The higher haemoglobin concentration of men, compared to women, is related to testosterone levels. As part of the gender reassignment process the sex hormone levels are changed so that a woman who becomes a man will receive testosterone. This will result in the haemoglobin concentration rising to the higher range seen in men. The opposite will be true if a man becomes a woman.

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Reason for Change

To allow the donation without a deferral period from donors with a history of male-sex-with-male behaviour.

For new links to be added.



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