

Issued by JPAC: 29 June 2017

Implementation: To be determined by each Service

## Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 15 - 2017

### Malaria

#### This change applies to the Whole Blood and Components Donor Selection Guidelines

Please modify “Obligatory”, “Discretionary” and “Reason for Change” as follows:

#### Obligatory

##### Must not donate if:

- a) The donor has ever had malaria.
- b) The donor has had an undiagnosed fever which could have been malaria while abroad or within ~~six~~ four months of leaving a malaria endemic area.
- c) The donor has lived in any malarial endemic area for a continuous period of six months or more at any time of life.
- d) Less than 12 months after last leaving a malaria endemic area.

#### Discretionary

##### ~~b) a) Donors who have had malaria diagnosed in the past:~~

If more than three years have passed since anti-malarial therapy has been completed and symptoms caused by malaria have resolved and a validated test for malarial antibody is ~~negative to be performed~~, accept.

If the donor (with a history of malaria) has revisited a malaria endemic area and at least ~~six~~ four months have passed since return and a validated test for malarial antibody is ~~negative to be performed~~, accept.

##### ~~e) b) Donors who have EVER had an undiagnosed fever that could have been malaria while in a malarial area or within ~~six~~ four months of leaving a malaria endemic area:~~

If at least ~~six~~ four months have passed since the donor returned from the malarial endemic area, or from the date of recovery from symptoms (undiagnosed fever) that may have been caused by malaria, whichever is later, and a validated test for malarial antibody is ~~negative to be performed~~, accept.

**NB.** this may have to be increased to six months if the area is also identified as a risk area for *T. cruzi* or a tropical virus; the longest stipulated deferral period must be applied

**a) c) Donors who have EVER been resident in a malarial endemic area for 6 months or more:**

If at least ~~six~~ four months has passed since the date of the last potential exposure to malaria, and a validated test for malaria antibody is ~~negative~~ to be performed, accept.

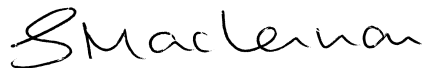
**d) For all other donors:**

If at least ~~six~~ four months and less than 12 months have passed since return from a malaria endemic area, and a validated test for malarial antibody is ~~negative~~ to be performed, accept.

**Reason for Change**

~~The 'Discretionary' entry has been expanded for clarity.~~

Change to the deferral period required prior to testing donors with a defined malarial risk: SACTTI advised on decreasing the malarial deferral period (from six to four months) before a malarial antibody test result can be considered valid and be used to release donations from malarial risk donors



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