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Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 04 - 2021

Coronavirus Vaccination

These changes apply to the Whole Blood and Components Donor Selection Guidelines

Please make the following changes to the Coronavirus Infection topic, Appendix 2 Table of Immunizations and the Immunization – Non-Live topic:

Coronavirus Infection

5. Coronavirus Vaccination

Obligatory a) Recipients of ~~a the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine or the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, as part of~~ in the UK vaccination programme

Must not donate if:

Less than seven days after the most recent immunization was given.

b) Recipients of ~~any other~~ a COVID-19 vaccine **outside the UK vaccination programme**, including participants in clinical trials

Must not donate if:

- Less than four weeks after the most recent immunization was given, or
- Still within any deferral period advised in the protocol for any clinical trial that the donor is enrolled in.

Refer to a Designated Clinical Support Officer if unsure.

Discretionary Recipients of ~~the Pfizer/BioNTech a COVID-19 vaccine or the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine~~ (as part of the UK vaccination programme only), if:

- More than **seven** days after the most recent immunization was given, and
- the donor is well, with no ongoing local or systemic reaction to the vaccine, accept

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<p><i>Additional Information</i></p>	<p>[Unchanged until paragraph 7]</p> <p>Individuals vaccinated with inactivated viruses or vaccines that do not contain live agents can usually be accepted without any deferral. Both the COVID-19 vaccines currently licensed in the UK, including the AstraZeneca, Moderna and Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines, are non-live and as such do not pose a transfusion safety risk. Nevertheless, as these are new vaccines, a seven-day deferral after immunization is recommended to ensure donor and donation safety. This will also reduce the risk of a donation being discarded if a vaccine recipient develops symptoms directly related to the vaccine in the week after donation.</p> <p>Several other coronavirus vaccines are currently under review by regulatory authorities in the UK and elsewhere. Donor selection guidelines will be updated reviewed if and when any new COVID-19 vaccine is approved for use in the UK.</p>
<p><i>Reason for Change</i></p>	<p>Addition of information on COVID-19 vaccination and a link to Immunization – Non-live.</p> <p>Entry updated to include all vaccines currently approved for the UK COVID-19 vaccination programme.</p>

Appendix 2 – Table of Immunizations

Diseases Protected against	Comments and example trade names of adult preparations	
COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2)	Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine; AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine; Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. If more than 7 days from most recent immunization, accept.	Non-Live

Immunization – Non-Live

<p><i>Obligatory</i></p>	<p>1. Post Exposure: See: <u>Immunization - 2. Post Exposure</u></p> <p>2. Hepatitis B: Must not donate if: Less than seven days after administration</p> <p>3. COVID-19 (Pfizer/BioNTech or AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine) See: Coronavirus Infection Must not donate if: Less than seven days after administration</p>
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<p><i>Additional Information</i></p>	<p>Sensitive assays for HBsAg may be positive following recent immunization. A positive result can lead to the donation being wasted, unnecessary tests and the need to contact the donor.</p> <p>Note, hepatitis A immunization may be combined with hepatitis B immunization.</p> <p>"Non-Live" immunizations do not use material that can cause infection. This means there is no risk to people receiving donated material from a recently immunized non-exposed donor.</p> <p>As the Pfizer/BioNTech and AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines are new, additional guidance is given for these. This is included in the Coronavirus Infection entry. a seven-day deferral is recommended to ensure donor and donation safety. This will also reduce the risk of a donation being discarded if a vaccine recipient develops symptoms directly related to the vaccine in the week after donation.</p>
<p><i>Reason for change</i></p>	<p>Addition Update of guidance for COVID-19 vaccination.</p>

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