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Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 6 - 2012

Acne

Applies to the Whole Blood and Components Donor Selection Guidelines only

Including	Acne rosacea.
Definition	With regard to drug treatment: Topical: Applied to the skin only. Systemic: Taken by mouth or other routes so that it has an affect on the whole body.
Obligatory	Must not donate if: a) Has ever taken etretinate (Tigason®). b) Less than 24 months from the last dose of acitretin (Neotigason®). c) Less than four weeks from the last dose of isotretinoin (Roaccutane®). d) There is secondary infection. e) Less than seven days from completing systemic antibiotic treatment for secondary infection.
Discretionary	If using topical treatments (including retinoids), or taking oral tetracycline, oral erythromycin or oral co-cyprindiol (Dianette® (cyproterone acetate and ethinyloestradiol)), accept.
Additional Information	Etretinate (Tigason®), acitretin (Neotigason®) and isotretinoin (Roaccutane®) taken systemically can cause birth defects in babies exposed to them while inside the womb. It is important to allow time for the drug to be cleared from the blood of a donor. It takes longer to clear some drugs than others. There is no published data that topical retinoids cause birth defects.


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Secondary infection of acne is usually obvious with swelling and redness of affected spots. There is a risk of bacteria entering the blood. This could be a serious threat to anybody receiving blood or blood components. This is because bacteria can multiply to dangerous levels after collection.

Reason for Change There has been an increase in the deferral period after using acitretin (Neotigason®) from 12 to 24 months.

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