Date of publication: 09 May 2012  Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 7 - 2012

Toxoplasmosis

Applies to the Whole Blood and Components Donor Selection Guidelines only

Obligatory

Must not donate if:
Less than six months from recovery.

Additional Information

This is a common parasitic infection, often spread by cat faeces or eating undercooked meat. It can be spread through transfusion. It may have serious consequences or even prove fatal for the recipient. Usually it does not cause symptoms, as the body’s immune system easily overcomes the parasite. If the infection has caused symptoms that have lead to it being diagnosed, waiting six months from recovery will make it unlikely that it will be passed on by donation.

Information

This is a requirement of the Blood Safety and Quality Regulations 2005.

Reason for Change

Entry has been simplified following a risk assessment.

Further Information

The supporting paper, JPAC 12-29 Toxoplasmosis DSG entry, leading to this Change Notification can be found in the Document Library/Supporting Papers of the JPAC website: http://www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk/Index.aspx?Publication=DL&Section=12&pageid=7528

Dr Sheila MacLennan
Professional Director - Joint UKBTS/HPA Professional Advisory Committee

Direct Dial: (0113) 820 8638  sheila.maclennan@nhsbt.nhs.uk