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Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 10 – 2007

Frequency of Donation

Applies to Whole Blood and Components Donor Selection Guidelines only.

Discretionary

Whole Blood:

A minimum interval of 12 weeks between donations should be observed. Female donors who regularly attend at intervals of less than 16 weeks should be informed that they are at increased risk of iron deficiency. They should be advised to reduce their frequency of donation to an average of 16 weeks or more.

Component Donation:

Double Red Cells:

An interval of 26 weeks should be allowed unless shown to be iron replete.

Platelets & Plasma:

Normally, donors should not undergo procedures more than once a fortnight and not more than 24 procedures per annum.

Leucocytes:

Not more than 12 procedures per annum.

There should be a minimum of 48 hours between procedures and a donor should not undergo more than two procedures within a 7 day period.

Reason for Change

To simplify the donor deferral policy for whole blood donors.

Additional Information

The above guidance on donation intervals appears in the Council of Europe publication "Guide to the preparation, use and quality assurance of blood components – 13th Edition".

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