

Issued by JPAC: 15 August 2018

Implementation: To be determined by each Service

## Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 22 - 2018

### ~~Sex Change~~ Transgender Individuals

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

Please make the following changes to the entry:

*Obligatory* Assessment of the haemoglobin concentration should be according to the gender assigned.

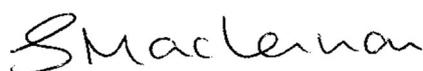
*See if Relevant* [Blood Safety Entry Surgery](#)

*Additional Information* A careful and sympathetic consideration of sexual risk factors needs to be undertaken. A man who has had his gender reassigned as a woman who, as a man, had not had high risk sexual activity, can be accepted if, as a woman, they have a sexual relationship with a man.

The higher haemoglobin concentration of men, compared to women, is related to testosterone levels. As part of the gender reassignment process the sex hormone levels are changed so that a woman who becomes a man will receive testosterone. This will result in the haemoglobin concentration rising to the higher range seen in men. The opposite will be true if a man becomes a female.

*Reason for Change* The title of this entry has been changed from 'sex change'. ~~The 'Additional Information' has been extended.~~

**Index** – Add 'Transgender Individuals' as a keyword for the transgender entry and retain 'Sex Change' and 'Gender Reassignment'.



**Dr Sheila MacLennan**  
**Professional Director - Joint UKBTS Professional Advisory Committee**

☎ Direct Dial: (0113) 820 8638    ✉ [sheila.macclennan@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:sheila.macclennan@nhsbt.nhs.uk)