

Issued by JPAC: 28 July 2021	Implementation: To be determined by each Service
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## Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 22 - 2021

### Coronavirus Infection

This change applies to the Deceased Tissue, Live Tissue and Cord Blood Donor Selection Guidelines as stated below

#### Deceased Tissue Donor Selection Guidelines

Please amend the following sections of this entry:

<i>Definition:</i>	<p><b>Confirmed Infection:</b> <del>If a diagnostic test has been performed and is positive, this constitutes a confirmed infection.</del> The donor has had a positive test for the presence of Coronavirus, usually by a throat and nose swab. This does not include tests for antibodies to Coronavirus.</p> <p><b>Suspected Infection:</b> Compatible symptoms as per UK GOV definition given below and who has not been tested or is awaiting test result.</p> <p><b>Symptoms of coronavirus infection:</b> The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) infection are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recent onset of a new, continuous cough</li> <li>• High temperature</li> <li>• Loss of, or a change in, normal sense of taste or smell</li> </ul> <p><b>Recovery from Coronavirus symptoms:</b> In line with Public Health England advice, donors can be considered to have recovered if they are well and free of fever and respiratory symptoms. Some individuals may have a cough or reduced sense of smell or taste for some weeks after resolution of their infection, but can be considered as recovered for the purposes of tissue and cell donation.</p>
<b>2. Contact with a confirmed or suspected case of Coronavirus infection</b>	
<i>Obligatory:</i>	<p><b>Must not donate if:</b></p> <p><b>Less than 10 14 days</b> from the <del>last</del> <b>first</b> day of contact with an individual with a confirmed or suspected infection.</p>

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<i>Discretionary:</i>	<p>(a) If <b>more</b> than <b>10 14 days</b> since the <b>last first</b> day of contact with an individual with a confirmed or suspected infection, and the donor remained well with no symptoms of Coronavirus infection, accept.</p> <p>(b) If <b>less</b> than <b>10 14-days</b> and the donor remained well, with no symptoms of Coronavirus infection, the donor may be accepted with individual risk assessment.</p> <p>Donors <b>without</b> any symptoms of coronavirus infection, or not suspected to have, and have not been tested for COVID-19 infection, who were in intensive care units with other patients awaiting test results for suspected COVID-19 infection, and where these other patients were subsequently moved to isolation facilities following confirmation of infection, may be accepted subject to individual risk assessment.</p> <p>See 'Additional Information' section below.</p>
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### 3. Donor undertaking travel related quarantine

<i>Obligatory:</i>	<p><b>Must not donate if:</b></p> <p>Currently in government mandated quarantine.</p> <p>This advice changes frequently. See: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus</a> for up to date information.</p>
<i>Discretionary:</i>	<p>Donor may be accepted subject to individual risk assessment. Consult with Designated Clinical Support Officer.</p>

<i>Additional Information:</i>	<p>Common coronaviruses cause colds and respiratory tract infections but are not considered a risk for tissue transplant recipients. Since 2002 there have been outbreaks in humans of new strains of coronavirus, associated with severe pulmonary infections and mortality rates of 10-35% e.g. SARS and MERS.</p> <p>COVID-19 is an illness characterised by respiratory symptoms, including coughing and breathlessness, and fever. It is caused by infection with a newly identified Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2. Its full pathogenesis remains unknown but individuals with certain underlying chronic conditions, the elderly and immunocompromised individuals are at risk of more severe disease.</p> <p>Some persons with coronavirus infection may be asymptomatic. It is possible that they may have undergone testing for occupational health reasons (for example).</p> <p><del>ECDC guidance on SARS-CoV-2 suggests that tissues should only be collected from deceased donors (without symptoms or diagnosis of COVID-19) who have lived and visited in areas of sustained community transmission if the donor has been tested with respiratory swabs and found negative within 72 hours prior to donation (ie: retrieval) OR unless the donated tissue will undergo</del></p>
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	<p><del>processing that the Tissue Establishment consider will effectively eliminate/inactivate any coronavirus that may be present in the donated tissues.</del></p> <p>Deceased tissue donors may have been subject to respiratory swab testing either on admission to hospital, or as organ donors. All organ donors are tested for SARS-CoV-2 on respiratory samples prior to donation. It is important to ascertain if the donor has been tested negative before proceeding with retrieval of tissues. <del>If the donor has not been tested, ECDC guidance given above should be applied, depending on tissues donated.</del></p> <p>If the donor has not been tested, but the donated tissue will undergo processing that the Tissue Establishment consider will effectively eliminate/inactivate any coronavirus that may be present in the donated tissues, the donation can be accepted.</p> <p>There is no evidence at present that coronaviruses can be transmitted by tissue/ cell transplantation and therefore these measures are considered to be precautionary.</p>
Reason for Change:	<p><del>To add a "See if Relevant" section with link to new the Coronavirus Vaccination entry.</del></p> <p>Add guidance related to travel related quarantine, update definition of 'confirmed infection', and update 'Additional Information' section.</p>

## Live Tissue and Cord Blood Donor Selection Guidelines

Please amend the following sections of this entry:

Definition:	<p><b>Confirmed Infection:</b> <del>If a diagnostic test has been performed and is positive, this constitutes a confirmed infection.</del> The donor has had a positive test for the presence of Coronavirus, usually by a throat and nose swab. This does not include tests for antibodies to Coronavirus.</p> <p><b>Suspected Infection:</b> Compatible symptoms as per UK GOV definition given below and who has not been tested or is awaiting test result.</p> <p><b>Symptoms of coronavirus infection:</b> The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) infection are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recent onset of a new, continuous cough</li> <li>• High temperature</li> <li>• Loss of, or a change in, normal sense of taste or smell</li> </ul> <p><b>Recovery from Coronavirus symptoms:</b> In line with Public Health England advice, donors can be considered to have recovered if they are well and free of fever and respiratory symptoms. Some individuals may have a cough or reduced sense of smell or taste for some weeks after resolution of their infection, but can be considered as recovered for the purposes of tissue and cell donation.</p>
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### 3. Person with suspected Coronavirus infection

<i>Discretionary:</i>	<p>a) If testing was not performed and If <b>more than 28 days</b> have passed since resolution of symptoms, and the donor remains well, accept.</p> <p>or</p> <p>b) If testing was performed, and coronavirus infection has been ruled out as a clinical diagnosis, see <a href="#">Infection – Acute entry</a>. <del>If more than 14 days have passed since resolution of symptoms, and donor has been tested and advised they do not have coronavirus infection, and the donor remains well, accept.</del></p>
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### 4. Contact with a confirmed or suspected case of Coronavirus infection

<i>Includes:</i>	Individuals who had been advised to self-isolate following contact with a suspected or confirmed case of coronavirus infection.
<i>Obligatory:</i>	<b>Must not donate if:</b> <b>Less than 10 14 days</b> from the first day of <b>contact isolation</b> . <del>with an individual with a confirmed or suspected infection.</del>
<i>Discretionary:</i>	<del>If more than 14 days since the first day of contact with an individual with a confirmed or suspected infection and the donor remained well with no symptoms of Coronavirus infection, accept.</del> <p>a) If <b>more than 10 days</b> since the first day of isolation and the donor remains well, accept.</p> <p>b) If the donor has been advised that isolation is no longer required and the donor remains well, accept.</p> <p>c) If the donor has not been required to isolate and they remain well and they agree to report any post donation illness, accept.</p>

### 5. Person requiring isolation or quarantine after travel

<i>Obligatory:</i>	<p><b>Must not donate if:</b></p> <p>During the period of isolation or quarantine as per current UK Government guidelines. See: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus</a> for up to date information. This applies to asymptomatic donors who have tested negative during the quarantine period.</p> <p>If donor develops symptoms or tests positive, see appropriate section above.</p> <p>See Additional Information.</p>
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<p><i>Additional Information:</i></p>	<p>Common coronaviruses cause colds and respiratory tract infections but are not considered a risk for tissue recipients. Since 2002 there have been outbreaks in humans of new strains of coronavirus, associated with severe pulmonary infections and mortality rates of 10-35% e.g. SARS and MERS.</p> <p>COVID-19 is an illness characterised by respiratory symptoms, including coughing and breathlessness, and fever. It is caused by infection with a newly identified Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2. Its full pathogenesis remains unknown but individuals with certain underlying chronic conditions, the elderly and immunocompromised individuals are at risk of more severe disease.</p> <p>Some persons with coronavirus infection may be asymptomatic. It is possible that they may have undergone testing for occupational health reasons (for example). Routine screening of living asymptomatic tissue donors is not necessary. They are likely to have been screened before hospital admission for a planned procedure as per hospital policy.</p> <p>Donors who have travelled may be required to self-isolate (also termed quarantine) on their entry into the UK. This will depend on country or area of a country travelled from, and when the entry into the UK occurred. Donors will be aware of the UK border rules at the time of their travel.</p> <p>There is no evidence at present that coronaviruses can be transmitted by tissue/cell transplantation and therefore these measures are precautionary.</p>
<p><i>Reason for Change:</i></p>	<p><del>To add a "See if Relevant" section with link to new the Coronavirus Vaccination entry.</del></p> <p>Update guidance relating to suspected infection, update definition of 'confirmed infection' and addition of guidance and information relating to travel.</p>

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