

## Change Notification for the UK Blood Transfusion Services

**Date of Issue:** 04 July 2023

**Implementation:** to be determined by each Service

No. 27 – 2023

### Air Crew and Air Traffic Controllers

Revised entry

Changes are indicated using the key below. This formatting will not appear in the final entry.

original text

«inserted text»

*deleted text*

The following changes apply to:

<b>BM-DSG</b> Bone Marrow & Peripheral Blood Stem Cell	<b>CB-DSG</b> Cord Blood	<b>GDRI</b> Geographical Disease Risk Index	<b>TD-DSG</b> Tissue – Deceased Donors	<b>TL-DSG</b> Tissue – Live Donors	<b>WB-DSG</b> Whole Blood & Components
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<i>Includes</i>	<p><b>Air crew:</b> Flight crew Cabin crew Military Aircrew Military Supernumerary crew</p> <p><b>Air Traffic Controllers:</b> Civilian controllers Military controllers</p>
<i>Obligatory</i>	<p><b>Air crew (except military) and Air Traffic Controllers (except military):</b> <b>Must not donate if:</b> On duty within the next 24 hours.</p> <p><b>Military air crew:</b> <b>Must not donate if:</b> On duty within the next 36 hours.</p> <p><b>Military controllers:</b> <b>Must not donate if:</b> On duty within the next 12 hours.</p>
<i>«Discretionary»</i>	<p><b>Non-military crew/controllers holding Class 3 medical certificates:</b> If not on duty within the next 12 hours, accept.»</p>

<p><i>Additional Information</i></p>	<p>The UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) guidelines state:          «‘In order to prevent the very slight risk of post-donation faintness or syncope, donating blood or plasma should be avoided during the 24 hours before duty for holders of Class 1 and 2 medical certificates, and during the 12 hours before duty for holders of Class 3 medical certificates.’          There is no CAA guidance for crew that are not required to hold these types of medical certification. Donors to whom this applies, including cabin crew and some private pilots, should be advised not to donate if they are on duty within the next 24 hours in line with commercial pilots and other flight crew.»  <del>“In order to prevent the very slight risk of post-donation faintness or syncope, donating blood or plasma should be avoided during the 24 hours before duty.”          This applies to aircrew (flight crew and cabin crew) and air traffic controllers.</del></p> <p>The Ministry of Defence (MOD) guidelines state:          “Aircrew and Supernumerary Crew should not fly until 36 hours have elapsed after donating blood.”          and          ‘Military and MOD Contracted Civilian Controllers should not control until 12 hours have elapsed after donating blood.’</p>
<p><i>Reason for Change</i></p>	<p>«Updated Civil Aviation Authority advice for holders of Class 3 medical certificates has been added.»  <del>The Air Crew and Air Traffic Controller entries have been combined.          The current UK Civil Aviation Authority and Ministry of Defence guidance for all staff with an operational role is included. Pilots are no longer solely specified; they are air crew, specifically flight crew.</del></p>



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