Change Notification UK National Blood Services  No. 28 - 2009

Tamiflu (Oseltamivir)

Applies to the Living and Deceased Tissue Donor Selection Guidelines

Obligatory  Must not donate if:

a) Taking tamiflu as treatment for influenza.

b) At any time in the seven days prior to, or whilst taking tamiflu, the donor has had symptoms of influenza (a temperature of greater than 38 °C, or a history of fever and two or more of the following symptoms: cough, headache, runny nose, diarrhoea/ vomiting)

Discretionary  If the potential donor is taking tamiflu as prophylaxis, has not been advised to be confined to home, and has had no symptoms of influenza, accept.

See if Relevant  Infection – Acute

Additional Information  Tamiflu is a viral neuraminidase inhibitor (neuraminidase is an enzyme that helps the virus spread from cell to cell). It is used for post-exposure prophylaxis of influenza. It appears to be a very safe drug with little evidence for teratogenic (potential to cause birth defects) or mutagenic (potential to cause malignancy) effect.

Reason for Change  This is a new entry.

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

Direct Dial: (0113) 214 8638  sheila.maclennan@nhsbt.nhs.uk