

Issued by JPAC: 25 January 2022

Implementation: To be determined by each Service

## Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 36 - 2021

### Alopecia

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

Please make the following changes to the entry:

<i>Includes:</i>	Baldness and hair loss treatments
<i>Obligatory:</i>	<p><b>Must not donate if:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Dutasteride (Avodart®) taken in the last six months.</li> <li>b) Finasteride (Propecia®, Proscar®) taken in the last four weeks.</li> <li>c) Taking systemic anti-fungal treatment <b>or oral steroids.</b></li> <li>d) Related to malignancy or to its treatment.</li> </ul>
<i>Discretionary:</i>	<p><del>If on no treatment, Hydroxychloroquine orally, or only on topical treatment, and the donor is otherwise well, accept.</del></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) If the donor is on no treatment, accept.</li> <li>b) If the donor is only using topical treatment and is not attending specialist follow up, accept.</li> <li>c) If the donor is only taking oral Hydroxychloroquine, Spironolactone or Minoxidil, and is not under specialist follow up, accept.</li> <li>d) If the donor has recovered from hair transplant surgery and no further treatment or follow up is planned, accept.</li> <li>e) For all other cases, refer to a DCSO.</li> </ul>
<i>Additional Information:</i>	<p>Hair loss can be related to several factors, including family history, hormone changes, scalp infections, medication and underlying medical disorders.</p> <p>Alopecia areata is an autoimmune condition which can vary in severity, from patchy to complete hair loss. Individuals may require local treatment, including injected steroids, or systemic treatment with steroids and/or immunosuppressants.</p> <p>Dutasteride and finasteride can cause abnormal development of the sexual organs of a male baby within the womb. As it is not possible to know if an individual donation may be transfused to a pregnant woman, whose baby may</p>

	<p>be at risk, donations cannot be taken from people who may have one of these drugs in their blood. They remain in the blood even after treatment has stopped.</p> <p>Given the range of causes and treatments, referral to a DCSO may be required to establish the donor's eligibility to donate blood.</p>
Reason for change:	<p><del>Hydroxychloroquine orally has been added to the discretionary acceptance.</del></p> <p>This entry has been revised by adding a discretion for oral Spironolactone and Minoxidil therapy. Further guidance has been added with regard to immunosuppressive treatments that may be required.</p>

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