









Date of publication:13 April 2011Implementation:To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 5 - 2011

Porphyria

Applies to the Whole Blood and Component Donor Selection Guidelines only

Obligatory Must not donate if:

Suffers from porphyria

Discretionary If the potential donor suffers from Acute Porphyria, Acute Intermittent

Porphyria (AIP), Varigate Porphyria (VP) or Hereditary Coproporphyria (HCP), it is 12 months or more since their last acute attack and they have no current

skin lesions, accept.

See if Relevant Hepatitis

Additional Information

Acute porphyrias (AIP, VP and HCP) may be associated with skin lesions and raised blood porphyrins independently of acute attacks. Theoretically the recipient of the blood could develop skin lesions, and we therefore exclude

anyone with active skin lesions.

Porphyria Cutanea Tarda (PCT) is almost always an acquired condition associated with underlying liver disease, usually hepatitis of viral or unknown origin. These patients are often treated by venesection, however because of the risk of transmission of the agent that caused the condition the blood is not

suitable for transfusion.

With Erythropoietic Protoporphyria (EPP) and Congenital Erythropoietic Porphyria (CEP) the patient is often anaemic because of the condition. Also in these conditions there are porphyrins in the red cells and red cell life span is

reduced so the blood is not suitable for donation.

Reason for Change This is a new entry.

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Further information

The supporting paper, JPAC 11-08 Recommendations on a change to the Donor Selection Guidance for Porphyria, leading to this Change Notification can be found in the Document Library/Supporting Papers of the JPAC website:

http://www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk/Index.aspx?Publication=DL&Section=12&pageid=7528

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