

Issued by JPAC: 30 August 2022

Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 54 - 2022

Steroid Therapy

These changes apply to the Deceased Donor Selection Guidelines.

Please amend the following entry.

<i>Obligatory</i>	<p>Discuss with a Designated Medical Officer if: Has been regularly taking steroid tablets, injections or enemas, or applying creams over large areas.</p> <p>For information on other situations where steroid therapy may be acceptable, refer to entry for immunosuppression.</p>
<i>Discretionary</i>	<p>a) If occasional use of creams over small areas of skin for minor skin complaints, accept.</p> <p>b) If using steroid inhalers for prophylaxis, accept.</p> <p>c) Cornea only: If corneas are stored in organ culture and in the absence of other contraindications, accept. See additional information section</p> <p>2. Eyes: See if there is an entry for the underlying condition. If acceptable and not on an immunosuppressive dose, accept.</p>
<i>See if Relevant</i>	<p>Autoimmune Disease Immunosuppression Skin Disease Tissue and Organ Recipients Infection – acute Infection – chronic Eye Disease</p>
<i>Additional Information</i>	<p>Steroid therapy in high doses causes immunosuppression. This may mask infective and inflammatory conditions that would otherwise prevent donation. For further information refer to 'Immunosuppression' entry.</p> <p>The underlying condition requiring steroid treatment should always be taken into consideration.</p>

	Eye donors receiving steroid treatment e.g. steroid eye drops, should be evaluated on a case by case basis, taking into consideration the indication for treatment as well as any possible side effects. Relevant clinical records, especially ophthalmology records, should be reviewed.
<i>Reason for Change</i>	A link to Immunosuppression has been added. Links to the Infection – acute, Infection – chronic and Eye Disease entries have been added. Discretionary section amended regarding cornea donation.



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