

Issued by JPAC: 15 December 2020

Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 74 - 2020

This notification has been issued following the introduction of coronavirus vaccines and applies to the following sections of the ALL Tissue and Cells Donor Selection Guidelines as stated below.

1. Coronavirus Vaccination

This is a new entry.

<i>Obligatory</i>	<p>a) UK vaccination programme (Recipients of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine or the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine)</p> <p>Must not donate if:</p> <p>i) Less than seven days after the most recent vaccination was given.</p> <p>ii) If donor felt unwell after vaccination, must not donate for 7 days after resolution of symptoms.</p> <p>b) Recipients of any other COVID-19 vaccine, including participants in clinical trials or donors vaccinated outside the UK</p> <p>Refer to Designated Clinical Support Officer for individual risk assessment. See additional information.</p>
<i>Discretionary</i>	<p>Donors may be accepted less than 7 days after the date of the most recent vaccination if vaccinated as part of the UK vaccination programme, subject to individual risk assessment. See additional information.</p>
<i>See if Relevant</i>	<p>Coronavirus Infection</p>
<i>Additional Information</i>	<p>Individuals vaccinated with inactivated viruses or vaccines that do not contain live agents (i.e. mRNA and protein subunit vaccines) may be accepted as tissue and cell donors if they feel well after vaccination. After vaccination with attenuated viruses (e.g. virus vector-based other than non-replicating or live-attenuated virus vaccines) tissue and cell donors must by default be deferred for four weeks.</p> <p>Both the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (currently available in the UK) and the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine (awaiting regulatory approval) are non-live. However as the effects of the newly developed coronavirus vaccines on donor health and donation safety are not fully established yet,</p>

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	<p>as a precautionary principle a 7 day deferral from the date of vaccination, or deferral of donors who developed symptoms directly related to the vaccine for at least 7 days after the resolution of symptoms, is recommended. Deceased tissue donors who had been vaccinated with a non-live vaccine less than 7 days prior to death and had not had significant local or systemic reactions following vaccination can be accepted.</p> <p>Living tissue and cell donors, within 7 days after non-live vaccine, may be considered subject to individual risk assessment, if the benefit of the transplant outweighs the risks of donation.</p> <p>For donors vaccinated as part of a clinical trial or outside of the UK, the type of vaccine used should be established to determine the appropriate deferral period.</p> <p>There may be new types of vaccine that become available, and it may not be known which type of vaccine was used for immunisation. In situations where information about vaccine type is missing or the vaccination is experimental, a four-week deferral period should be applied.</p> <p>The ECDC recommends that if HSC donors have been vaccinated with attenuated vaccines in the four weeks before donation, a risk assessment should be carried out and taken into account when deciding on transplantation and, if transplanted, the recipient should be monitored post-transplant.</p>
<i>Reason for Change</i>	This is a new entry.

2. Table of Immunizations

Please add COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) to the Table of Immunizations in all of the Guidelines

Diseases Protected against	Comments and example trade names of adult preparations	
COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2)	Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine 7 days post immunisation; see 'Coronavirus vaccination' entry	Non-Live

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3. Immunization - Non-Live

Please add 'Coronavirus' to the Obligatory section in all of the Guidelines

<i>Obligatory</i>	<p>1. Hepatitis B Must not donate if: Less than seven days after administration</p> <p>2. Coronavirus: See 'Coronavirus Vaccination' entry</p>
<i>Reason for Change</i>	To add Coronavirus Vaccination to obligatory section.

4. Coronavirus Infection

Please add a 'See if Relevant' section, to include a link to the 'Coronavirus Vaccination' entry, before the 'Additional Information' section, in all of the guidelines.

<i>See if Relevant</i>	Coronavirus Vaccination
<i>Reason for Change</i>	To add a "See if Relevant" section with link to new the Coronavirus Vaccination entry.

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