

Change Notification for the UK Blood Transfusion Services

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Implementation: to be determined by each Service

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GDRI Preliminaries

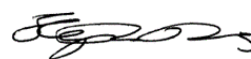
This notification includes the following changes:

	BM-DSG Bone Marrow & Peripheral Blood Stem Cell	CB-DSG Cord Blood	GDRI Geographical Disease Risk Index	TD-DSG Tissue – Deceased Donors	TL-DSG Tissue – Live Donors	WB-DSG Whole Blood & Components	Red Book Guidelines for the BTS in the UK
1. General Principles	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
2. Use of this index	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
3. Malaria	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
4. Use of maps in the GDRI	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
5. Travel information	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
6. HIV/AIDS	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
7. DSG cross-references	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐



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Changes are indicated using the key below. This formatting will not appear in the final entry.

original text	«inserted text»	deleted text
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1. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

General Principles

The GDRI should be used to assist selection of donors giving whole blood, blood components (red cells, platelets, plasma and granulocytes), haemopoietic progenitor cells and tissues for therapeutic use.

«Donor selection aims to minimise the risk of transfusion transmitted infections. This includes infectious diseases that a donor might have been exposed to if they have travelled or lived abroad. The GDRI provides guidance on which countries or regions carry a risk of a number of infectious diseases, including malaria, West Nile Virus, Dengue and other arboviruses, Trypanosoma cruzi (*T. cruzi*), and viral haemorrhagic fevers. For *T. cruzi*, assessment of risk includes whether an individual or their mother was born in an endemic country.

The GDRI is regularly updated to reflect changes in the geographical spread of individual infections. Updates are communicated through the JPAC Change Notification process. Where there is a rapidly emerging geographical disease risk, this can be added to the list of diseases covered by the GDRI.»

~~Donor Selection Procedures aim to minimize the risk of transfusion transmitted infection. Travel to; birth/maternal birth or residency in; and in some cases sexual activity with residents of certain countries, is associated with an increased risk of exposure to infections such as malaria, T cruzi, WNV and HIV. These risks may vary over time and new diseases may occur. Where there is a rapidly emerging geographical disease risk (e.g. SARS or Pandemic Flu) these will be communicated via a Change Notification to be used in conjunction with this document.~~

This list is compiled specifically for risks to the blood and tissue supply in the United Kingdom and may vary from risks or recommendations provided for the protection of the traveller. «It is not comprehensive but reflects the diseases which are of the most concern for Blood Transfusion and Tissue Transplantation Services.»

To assess the risk of an individual carrying such infections, look up the countries:

- that they have visited
- ~~for which they report sexual contact with a resident or former resident~~
- in which they were born
- in which their mother was born
- «in which they were resident for at least six months
- in which they were transfused before 01 January 1980»

If a risk is shown for that country, look at the relevant entry in the appropriate Donor Selection Guidelines (DSG) for the donation type (e.g. Whole Blood and Components or the relevant Tissue DSG) to assess the individual's suitability to donate.

«See [DSG cross-references](#) for the links to the relevant Donor Selection Guidelines topics.»

~~Table of Donor Selection Guidelines (DSG) cross-references (click on DSG title for navigation to the subject)~~

Chikungunya Virus	TD SG-BM	TD SG-CB	TD SG-DD	TD SG-LD	WB-DSG
Dengue	TD SG-BM	TD SG-CB	TD SG-DD	TD SG-LD	WB-DSG
HIV	TD SG-BM	TD SG-CB	TD SG-DD	TD SG-LD	WB-DSG

Malaria	<u>TD SG-BM</u>	<u>TD SG-CB</u>	<u>TD SG-DD</u>	<u>TD SG-LD</u>	<u>WB-DSG</u>
T-Cruzi	<u>TD SG-BM</u>	<u>TD SG-CB</u>	<u>TD SG-DD</u>	<u>TD SG-LD</u>	<u>WB-DSG</u>
WNV	<u>TD SG-BM</u>	<u>TD SG-CB</u>	<u>TD SG-DD</u>	<u>TD SG-LD</u>	<u>WB-DSG</u>
Viral Haemorrhagic Fever Risk	<u>TD SG-BM</u>	<u>TD SG-CB</u>	<u>TD SG-DD</u>	<u>TD SG-LD</u>	<u>WB-DSG</u>
Zika Virus	<u>TD SG-BM</u>	<u>TD SG-CB</u>	<u>TD SG-DD</u>	<u>TD SG-LD</u>	<u>WB-DSG</u>

2. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

This page has been removed.

Use of this index

This index has been prepared to assist the accurate assessment of the geographical risks and contains information on:

- *Malaria*
- *T. cruzi*
- *HIV risk in Sub-Saharan Africa*
- *WNV*
- *Chikungunya virus (CHIKV)*
- *Viral Haemorrhagic Fever Risk (endemic countries only)*

Table of Donor Selection Guidelines (DSG) cross-references (click on DSG title for navigation to the subject)

<i>CHIKV</i>	<i>BM-DSG</i>	<i>CB-DSG</i>	<i>TD-DSG</i>	<i>TL-DSG</i>	<i>WB-DSG</i>
<i>Dengue</i>	<i>BM-DSG</i>	<i>CB-DSG</i>	<i>TD-DSG</i>	<i>TL-DSG</i>	<i>WB-DSG</i>
<i>HIV</i>	<i>BM-DSG</i>	<i>CB-DSG</i>	<i>TD-DSG</i>	<i>TL-DSG</i>	<i>WB-DSG</i>
<i>Malaria</i>	<i>BM-DSG</i>	<i>CB-DSG</i>	<i>TD-DSG</i>	<i>TL-DSG</i>	<i>WB-DSG</i>
<i>T-Cruzi</i>	<i>BM-DSG</i>	<i>CB-DSG</i>	<i>TD-DSG</i>	<i>TL-DSG</i>	<i>WB-DSG</i>
<i>WNV</i>	<i>BM-DSG</i>	<i>CB-DSG</i>	<i>TD-DSG</i>	<i>TL-DSG</i>	<i>WB-DSG</i>
<i>Viral Haemorrhagic Fever Risk</i>	<i>BM-DSG</i>	<i>CB-DSG</i>	<i>TD-DSG</i>	<i>TL-DSG</i>	<i>WB-DSG</i>
<i>Zika Virus</i>	<i>BM-DSG</i>	<i>CB-DSG</i>	<i>TD-DSG</i>	<i>TL-DSG</i>	<i>WB-DSG</i>

3. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

Malaria

«Information concerning malaria risk has been sourced from UK reference sites (including www.travax.nhs.uk and <https://travelhealthpro.org.uk>) and through JPAC surveillance processes for emerging infections. Some modifications have been made to account for typical donor travel patterns, entry points to the countries concerned, areas where malaria surveillance is compromised and for ease of use for end users. Malaria risks within the GDRI are not identical to the health advice offered to travellers regarding anti-malarial therapy.»

~~Information concerning malaria risk has been sourced from Health Protection Scotland (www.travax.nhs.uk) with some modifications to account for typical donor travel patterns, entry points to the countries concerned, areas where reporting is compromised and ease of use for end users. They are not identical to those found on the 'Fit for Travel' website which is designed to inform travellers decisions about anti-malarial therapy rather than give assurance of safety of blood donations for recipient patients.~~

Countries with malarial risk ~~«are»~~ **have been** categorised into three groups:

- A. Countries where the malarial risk is present in the whole country all year or with very clear seasonal guidance.
- B. Countries where only parts of the country are affected.
- C. «Countries where malaria is limited to discrete pockets, or where the risk of infection is low, or where there are few visitors to affected areas. It is likely that tourists who visit these countries will be able to donate but individual assessment must be applied. Donors are likely to have detailed knowledge if they have visited any malarial areas. The health care professional should establish whether the donor sought advice prior to travel or not and if they were advised to take antimalarial precautions.»

~~C.—Indicates that only part of the country is affected in discrete pockets, or the risk of infection is low or that there are few visitors to the affected areas. It is likely that tourists who visit these countries will be able to donate but individual assessment must be applied. Donors are likely to have detailed knowledge of the malarial areas visited. The health care professional should establish whether the donor sought advice prior to travel or not and if they were advised to take anti malarial precautions.~~

Malaria Maps

~~The maps included are to be used to accompany the GDRI when assessing the malaria risk for a donor. They have been sourced from the Fit for travel website. It is important to apply the GDRI guidance for all infection risks; these maps only provide advice for malaria risk.~~

Use Of Maps

~~Maps are provided to allow staff to assess the malaria risk for the areas within these countries that a donor has visited. The text of the GDRI should be taken as the main source to make decisions. The maps present information about neighbouring countries but this should not be used for malarial assessment. The advice below each map relates to the Fit for travel website. Decisions regarding malaria guidance should be made using the template below.~~

~~The colours used in the maps are presented below.~~

Colour	Sample	Text	Action
Red		High risk	Apply Malaria Donor Selection Guideline
Dark pink/hatched		Variable risk/low risk	Apply Malaria Donor Selection Guideline
Light pink		Low to no risk	Can donate
Yellow		Surrounding country with malaria risk	Do not use for malaria assessment
Green		(Surrounding country with no malaria risk)	Do not use for malaria assessment

~~All maps were downloaded from the Fit for travel website (www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk).~~

~~Airport Stopovers~~

~~The definition of an Airport Stopover, as approved by The Standing Advisory Committee on Transfusion Transmitted Infections, is:~~

~~A transit through an airport during which the traveller has not left the airport.~~

~~When the donor's visit has consisted **only** of an airport stopover there is no need to refer to the Geographical Disease Risk Index.~~

4. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

This is a new page.

«Use of maps in the GDRI

Some countries have regional infection risks that do not apply to the whole country. Where appropriate, maps are provided to assist staff in assessing whether a donor has travelled to a risk area. The majority of maps in the GDRI relate to malaria risk. Maps may also be provided for tropical virus or West Nile Virus outbreaks in Europe.

When using maps in the GDRI:

- Apply the GDRI guidance for all infection risks - only use the map for the named infection risk(s) associated with that map.
- Always use the text of the GDRI as the main source to make decisions. This will include guidance on how to interpret any map that has been provided.
- Malaria maps may present information about neighbouring countries but this should not be used for malarial assessment.

The colours used in the malaria maps are presented below.»

Colour	Sample	Text	Action
Red		High risk	Apply Malaria Donor Selection Guideline
Dark pink/hatched		Variable risk/low risk	Apply Malaria Donor Selection Guideline
Light pink		Low to no risk	Can donate
Yellow		Surrounding country with malaria risk	Do not use for malaria assessment
Green		(Surrounding country with no malaria risk)	Do not use for malaria assessment

5. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

This is a new page.

«Travel information

Airport Stopovers

Travel risks do not apply for transit through an airport during which the traveller has not left the airport. When the donor's visit to a country has consisted only of an airport stopover there is no need to refer to the Geographical Disease Risk Index.

Sea Travel and Port Stopovers

Travel risks apply to time in port or if anchored offshore and should be assessed as time on land.

Overland Travel

Travel risks apply if the donor has travelled through a malaria area e.g. by car or train.»

6. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

This page has been removed.

~~**Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) / Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)**~~

~~HIV/AIDS is common in some areas of the world, and sexual activity with partners in these countries carries a risk of infection. This Index identifies the countries of Sub-Saharan Africa to facilitate interpretation of the guidance. However the health care professional should consider all other risks of HIV associated with travel and remember that this is not restricted to Sub-Saharan Africa.~~

~~If the donor reports sexual activity with a partner in one of the countries listed as Sub-Saharan Africa in the table, or with a partner who may have been sexually active in one of these areas, refer to the Blood Safety Entry in the Donor Selection Guidelines.~~

7. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

DSG cross-references

«This index has been prepared to assist the accurate assessment of the geographical risks and contains information on:

- Chikungunya virus (CHIKV)
- Dengue virus
- Malaria
- Trypanosoma cruzi (*T. cruzi*)
- Viral Haemorrhagic Fever Risk (endemic countries only)
- West Nile Virus (WNV)
- Yellow Fever
- Zika virus»

Table of Donor Selection Guidelines (DSG) cross-references (click on DSG title for navigation to the subject)

«Chikungunya Virus (»CHIKV«)»	BM-DSG	CB-DSG	TD-DSG	TL-DSG	WB-DSG
Dengue «Virus»	BM-DSG	CB-DSG	TD-DSG	TL-DSG	WB-DSG
HIV	BM-DSG	CB-DSG	TD-DSG	TL-DSG	WB-DSG
Malaria	BM-DSG	CB-DSG	TD-DSG	TL-DSG	WB-DSG
<i>T. Cruzii</i>	BM-DSG	CB-DSG	TD-DSG	TL-DSG	WB-DSG
«Viral Haemorrhagic Fever»	BM-DSG	CB-DSG	TD-DSG	TL-DSG	WB-DSG
«West Nile Virus (»WNV«)»	BM-DSG	CB-DSG	TD-DSG	TL-DSG	WB-DSG
Viral Haemorrhagic Fever	BM-DSG	CB-DSG	TD-DSG	TL-DSG	WB-DSG
«Yellow Fever»	BM-DSG	CB-DSG	TD-DSG	TL-DSG	WB-DSG
Zika Virus	BM-DSG	CB-DSG	TD-DSG	TL-DSG	WB-DSG