

Malignancy

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Contents

- [Condition](#)
- [Individual at risk](#)
- [Guidance at RECRUITMENT for adult volunteer donor and maternal donor \(cord blood donation\)](#)
- [Guidance at CT /WORK-UP](#)
- [Justification for guidance](#)
- [References](#)

Condition

Includes all haematological and non-haematological malignancies, but excludes benign tumours.

Individual at risk

Recipient

Guidance at RECRUITMENT for adult volunteer donor and maternal donor (cord blood donation)

UNACCEPTABLE, except completely treated basal cell carcinoma of the skin and cured in-situ carcinoma (see below).

Guidance at CT/WORK-UP

UNACCEPTABLE, but see below.

Donors with malignancy or with a history of malignancy must not donate.

There are two exceptions from this:

1. Cured carcinoma in-situ. In the EU, legislation limits this category to cervical carcinoma in-situ, whereas in other countries cured localized squamous cell carcinoma of the skin cancer, breast cancer in-situ and bladder cancer in-situ might also be acceptable.
2. Successfully and completely treated basal cell carcinoma

Women with known positivity for BRCA1 or 2 but no history of cancer are acceptable as donors. All such women should have a breast examination performed at work-up.

In the above cases, these conditions must always be communicated to the requesting transplant centre.

Justification for guidance

There is a risk of transmission of malignancy to the recipient.

Melanoma in-situ found in younger people, typical of the age of donors, are uncommon but have a reported recurrence rate of 5%. Such patients are at a higher risk of developing melanoma in other locations. In addition, melanoma has been proven to be transmissible by organ transplantation.

References

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Browne PV, Lawler M, Humphries P, McCann SR. Donor-cell leukemia after bone marrow transplantation for severe aplastic anemia. *N Engl J Med* 1991; 325(10): 710-3.

See also [Project Notify](#)