

## Bone Donation

### An opportunity to help others

#### Introduction

The procedure for replacing your hip joint involves the removal of the existing head of your thigh bone. This bone can be used to replace a bone deficiency in another person at a later date, most commonly in a more complex hip operation.

You may think that your bone is not suitable because you are too old, your bone is too worn or that your osteoarthritis excludes you. This generally is not the case. If you would like the opportunity to help improve the quality of another patient's life, please read this leaflet and consider becoming a bone donor.

#### Information

In order to save your bone for future use, we require the following from you.

- To complete a health questionnaire; this is to ensure your bone is suitable for donation and to exclude the possibility of transmitting disease. All information you give will be treated in the strictest confidence.
- One blood test performed at the time of your operation. Currently the mandatory blood tests are those for HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HTLV (a virus carried in the blood) and syphilis. **These tests are similar to those carried out by the National Blood Transfusion Service for blood donors.**
- To sign a consent form giving us permission to store your bone for future use and to permit us to take blood.

We ask you to study the exclusion criteria below, and not to offer to donate if you fall into any of these categories.

#### Exclusion Criteria

- Patients who would prefer not to donate their bone.
- Patients who have or have had cancer. This does not include basal cell carcinoma, which is a form of skin cancer.
- Patients with any inflammatory arthritis including rheumatoid, ankylosing spondylitis, etc.
- Patients who suffer from Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.
- Patients with immunodeficiency or immunosuppression.
- Patients who have had previous surgery on the same joint.
- Patients who have received a blood transfusion or blood products after 1980.
- Patients who at any time in their lives may have injected themselves with non-medically prescribed drugs, including tanning agents or have had sexual contact with individuals who have done so.
- Patients who have had sexual contact with homosexuals in the last 3 months.
- Patients who have had sexual contact with anyone from the native population in Africa or Thailand or who have had sexual contact with those who have done so.

- Patients who have been or had sexual contact with a prostitute, or have ever contracted syphilis.
- If you are HIV or HTLV positive or If you are a Hepatitis B or C carrier.
- Patients suffering from, or at risk of, Creutzfeldt Jakob Disease (CJD) or Gerstmann Straussler Scheinker Syndrome (GSS). This includes:
  - recipients of pituitary derived growth hormone, human dura mater grafts, or corneal grafts;
  - members of recognised familial CJD or GSS families;
  - patients with unexplained neurological illness or dementia.

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<b>Issue date:</b>	August 2018
<b>Issue no:</b>	8

## What happens now?

Becoming a bone donor is entirely Voluntary. If you do not wish to donate we understand, but if you would like the opportunity to help others by donating your bone which would otherwise be discarded, please complete the enclosed confidential History Form.

Bring this form with you when you come into hospital for your pre-assessment appointment where someone from the Bone Bank will come to speak with you.

If you have any questions concerning the donation of bone, please raise them either when you come into hospital or phone the **Bone Bank Co-ordinator on 01392 403504**.

## What if I change my mind?

If you are accepted as a donor but decide for whatever reason to change your mind please notify a member of staff at the time of your admission for surgery.

If you have already donated and have doubts please contact the **Bone Bank Co-ordinator on 01392 403504**.

The Trust cannot accept any responsibility for the accuracy of the information given if the leaflet is not used by Royal Devon staff undertaking procedures at the Royal Devon hospitals.

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