



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
2300 E STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20372-5300

IN REPLY REFER TO

6530
Ser M3/08UM3280
6 Aug 08

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
To: Commander, Navy Medicine East
Commander, Navy Medicine West
Commander, Navy Medicine National Capital Area
Commander, Navy Medicine Support Command

Subj: REVISED DOD POLICY ON BLOOD DONOR SCREENING, DEFERRAL AND
LOOKBACK FOR WEST NILE VIRUS (WNV)

Ref: (a) Chief, BUMED ltr 6530 Ser M3/AT-86792 of 31 Oct 2007

Encl: (1) BPL 08-03, 16 July 2008, Revised Policy on Blood Donor Screening, Deferral, and
Look-back for West Nile Virus
(2) Acknowledgement of Receipt and Implementation

1. The Navy Blood Program (NBP) Office provides procedural guidance and operational policies for Navy and Marine Corps facilities responsible for the collection, storage, and transfusion of blood products. The NBP is licensed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to manufacture and distribute blood products, and is a component of the Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP). The ASBP office has issued a policy, enclosure (1), revising the DoD Policy on Blood Donor Screening, Deferral and Lookback for West Nile Virus (WNV). This policy rescinds guidance provided in reference (a).

2. Effective 01 September 2008, all Navy medical facilities collecting and manufacturing allogeneic and/or autologous blood products will:

- a. Implement enclosure (1) in its entirety.
- b. Retain all records pertaining to the nucleic acid test (NAT) for WNV under Investigational New Drug (IND) procedures for a minimum of two years from the implementation date of the licensed WNV NAT (02 March 2007).
- c. Provide donors with revised Donor Information about WNV (enclosure (1), attachment A).
- d. Maintain contingency contracts for licensed alternate nucleic acid testing sites.
- e. Using an adhesive label or ink stamp, continue updating Circular of Information for the Use of Human Blood Components by inserting the language "A licensed nucleic acid test (NAT) for West Nile Virus (WNV) RNA has been performed and found to be non-reactive." This will be in effect until the Circular of Information has been updated and published with this language.

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- f. Continue including "non-reactive for WNV RNA" on the label of recovered plasma.
 - g. Revise all specific donor education material to reflect the changes in enclosure (1).
4. NBP facilities must return the acknowledgement of receipt and implementation (enclosure (2)) to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) M3C23 via facsimile at (202) 762-0930 or DSN 762-0930 no later than 1 September 2008.
5. Points of contact are CDR Brian Williamson at (202) 762-3438 or Brian.Willaimson@med.navy.mil or Ms. Kathleen Whitlock, QA Manager at (202) 762-3434 or Kathleen.Whitlock@med.navy.mil.



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