

Your information rights

Collecting data and access to your Welsh Blood Service record



welshblood.org.uk
0800 252266

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Your Information – Your rights as a Donor

Why does the WBS collect information about you?

The WBS collects information about you to help us communicate with you and to keep a record of your donations. We also keep details about all blood sample test results and your blood group. This is known as your donor record. The information held in your donor record is confidential.

Communicating with you

Keeping in contact with you, as a donor, is essential to let you know when your next blood donation session is due.

Your Donor Record

We register you each time you come to give blood using a paper record. We ask you to check that we have your up-to-date personal details.

We then update your record with the outcome of your donation visit and any changes you have told us about.

All blood sample test results and blood group results for each attendance are also put on your donor record. We also record any adverse events occurring as a result of your donating and which you tell us about. We use this information as part of our clinical and quality review process.

Why is medical history important?

The WBS must ensure that, in accepting your donation, neither your health nor the health of the patients who receive it are put at risk. For these reasons, we record and keep the medical information you give us, as well as the result of any tests on laboratory samples. Copies of any relevant correspondence about your medical history will also be kept. Should any information come to light in the future which has implications for you or the recipient(s) of your donation, we use the records we hold to check back on information and, if necessary, will contact you.

How we retain information electronically about you?

Your donor record is held on computer. Your session slips and the health questionnaire that you complete before donating are held as a paper record for up to a year, then microfilmed and held for at least 30 years. Following microfilming, the paper records are destroyed under strictly controlled procedures. If you have to retire from donating blood or no longer regularly attend sessions, your donor record will be archived from our “active” donor panel. However, as we must be able to trace all donation records in the event of a serious transfusion reaction in a patient, we cannot erase your record from our computer.

The WBS will, at all times, comply with the General Medical Council (GMC) guidelines on the use of medical information held about you.

If you are registered on the Welsh Bone Marrow Donor Registry, details of your tissue type will be held on the WBMDR & WBS computer systems.

Who else does the WBS send your information to?

We may supply your name, address and telephone number to certain companies who carry out work on our behalf. Such companies are under a legal duty to keep all information confidential. We do not pass on any donor identifiable information to any other commercial companies.

Data Protection

As part of the Velindre NHS Trust, the WBS is registered under the Data Protection Act 1998. The WBS will at all times comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act and its use of your information. If you wish to see the information held about you by the WBS you can do this by writing to: **The Director of the Welsh Blood Service, Ely Valley Road, Talbot Green, Pontyclun, CF72 9WB**



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