Contraindications to tissue donation

Check the list below for any general contraindications to tissue donation before offering to families. If unsure refer to the East Grinstead Eye Bank 01342 414000 and ask to page the on call eye retriever for clarification before offering the option.

a. **Infectious diseases** i.e. CJD, HIV, Hep A, B & C, (inc behaviour relating to an increased risk), Tuberculosis (MRSA is not a contraindication for corneal donation)

b. **Viral disease** i.e. viral meningitis (bacterial sepsis or meningitis is acceptable)

c. **Central nervous system diseases** of unknown aetiology (e.g., Alzheimer’s disease, other dementias, Parkinson’s disease, multiple sclerosis, Motor Neurone disease)

d. **Malignancies** (leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma, sideroblastic anaemia, polycythaemia) **Solid organ malignancy is NOT a contraindication for corneas**

e. **Auto immune diseases** i.e. sarcoidosis, rheumatoid arthritis, crohne’s disease

f. **Previous organ transplant**

g. **High dose steroids >15mgs prednisolone or equivalent).**

    NOTE; Patients who receive high dose steroids i.e dexamethasone infusions for comfort measures as part of end of life care are suitable for corneal donation providing the time they are receiving steroids is limited to within 2 weeks of the death.

Patients on long term steroids where the dose exceeds 15mgs prednisolone or its equivalent are acceptable providing the high dose does not exceed a period of 2 weeks and they return to a lower dose within 6 months leading up to the death.

**Equivalent steroid total daily doses;**

- Hydrocortisone 60mgs
- Dexamethasone 2.25mg
- Methylprednisolone 12mg
- Betamethasone 2.25mg
- Cortisone acetate 75mg
- Triamcinolone 12mg