



**Belgian
Red Cross
Flanders**

Motstraat 40
2800 Mechelen

www.rodekruis.be

Dear colleague,

The law of 15 February 2016 provides that patients with hereditary haemochromatosis and asymptomatic haemochromatosis carriers can give blood as long as they are in the 'maintenance therapy' stage of treatment and meet every one of the conditions for the donation of whole blood and blood components.

Blood donation must involve the patient's own doctor by means of a medical report on iron overload. In other words, prior to making their first donation, patients must submit a certificate signed by their doctor stating that they are in the 'maintenance therapy' stage of treatment and that there are no signs of irreversible organ damage caused by iron overload. This certificate must be accompanied by a recent (less than one month old) set of laboratory test results mentioning both the patient's serum ferritin level and the reference values used by the clinical laboratory that conducted the test. For the patient to be accepted as a donor, their ferritin levels must fall within the laboratory's reference range. A new medical report must be submitted each year.

To enable us to approve your patient as a donor, could you, as the patient's doctor, please fill in the certificate below and give it to the prospective donor to take with them to their first donation?

Many thanks for your cooperation.

Kind regards,

Giovani Vandewalle
Medical manager Collection

Doctor's certificate

I the undersigned hereby certify that Mr/Ms

(1) is currently in the 'maintenance therapy' stage of treatment for hereditary haemochromatosis

and

(2) shows no signs of irreversible organ damage caused by iron overload.

I enclose (3) a recent (less than one month old) set of laboratory test results indicating both the patient's serum ferritin level and the reference values used by the laboratory.

Dr.

Date

Stamp and signature