



**Rode Kruis
Vlaanderen**

Medisch Secretariaat

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Hemochromatosis patients as blood donors

Dear colleague

The law of May 9th, 2018 provides that patients with hereditary haemochromatosis can be accepted as donors of blood, plasma and platelets, as long as they are in the maintenance therapy phase of their treatment and without exception meet the selection criteria for donors of whole blood and blood components.

Donations must take place in coordination with the patient's treating doctor by means of a medical report regarding iron overload. This means that the patient must present a **certificate** at their first donation (and once a year after that), signed by the doctor managing their haemochromatosis, stating that:

- the patient is in the **maintenance therapy phase** of their treatment;
- the patient does **not require phlebotomy more than once every two months**;
- there are **no signs of irreversible organ damage** as a result of iron overload.

The certificate must be accompanied by a **recent lab protocol** (less than one month old) indicating the serum ferritin level and the lab's reference range. The serum ferritin level must be within the reference range in order to be accepted.

As part of the donor evaluation, we kindly request you as their treating physician to fill in the certificate below so the donor can present it at their next donation.

Thank you very much for your collaboration.

Kind regards,

Donor physician Belgian Red Cross-Flanders



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Treating physician certificate

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that

....., born

(1) is currently in the maintenance therapy phase of their treatment for hereditary haemochromatosis.

(2) there are no indications of irreversible organ damage as a result of iron overload.

(3) they do not require phlebotomy more than once every two months.

(4) their serum ferritin levels are within the reference range.
(Please include a lab protocol issued no more than a month prior to the signature date)

Dr.

Date

Stamp and signature

Validity: 1 year from signature date