

LATEST INFO: ZIKA VIRUS (APRIL 2016)

DKMS has agreed to the following procedure:

from this moment on we will follow the same criteria that are relevant for blood donation. The Paul-Ehrlich-Institut, a German, WHO collaborating center, responsible for such criteria and quality assurance of blood products, announced that blood donation will be prohibited for 4 weeks after returning from a Zika affected region. (<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/active-countries.html>) A uniform worldwide practice is coordinated by the WHO in collaboration with the corresponding supervisory authority.

What does this mean for stem cell transplantation?

If during the donor briefing we are informed, that the potential donor has been in a Zika affected region he/she will be blocked for 28 days starting from the day of his/her return. If the donor comes back shortly before the planned collection, the collection center and our work-up team will clarify the next steps case by case with the transplant center. The procedure for donors, who are/were already infected with the Zika Virus, has not even been clarified yet for blood donation. In case longer blockings are necessary, we will inform you immediately. As far as donor registration is concerned, there are no restrictions at this time.