



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

JOHANNE E. MORNE, M.S.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

August 22, 2024

Dear Colleague,

10 NYCRR Part 52-3.4(a)(12) requires that living allogeneic tissue donors be screened for receipt of a blood transfusion within the preceding 12 months. It has come to our attention that some tissue banks include in their screening of prospective donors the question: "In the past 12 months, have you come into contact with someone else's blood?" This, or a similar question, by itself, is not sufficient to comply with 52-3.4(a)(12).

If your tissue bank is licensed by the Department as a Comprehensive Tissue Procurement Service, you may be responsible for screening allogeneic donors, in which case you must comply with the screening requirements in 52-3.4. In order to comply with 52-3.4(a)(12), for living allogeneic donors, your screening criteria must specifically address whether the donor was the recipient of a blood transfusion within the preceding 12 months.

The following is an example of a screening question that is compliant with the requirement:
"Have you received a blood transfusion within the past 12 months?"

Please contact the Department with any questions at tissue@health.ny.gov or 518 485-5341.

Sincerely,

Matthew Kohn, Ph.D.
Director
Tissue Resources Program