

## Do you need further information?

It is important that you read this leaflet carefully. If you want to discuss any issue or need more information related to receiving bone graft, please ask the pre-op nurses or your surgeon.

**This document is available in a large print edition, if you need one please ask your Pre-op Nurse**

## Plymouth Hospital NHS Trust

Pre op Assessment Unit

Directorate of Orthopaedics and Rheumatology

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## Patient Information

**Receiving bone graft  
from the bone bank**



## Plymouth Hospital NHS Trust

Working in Partnership with  
The Plymouth University Schools of Medicine  
and Dentistry

Tel 01752 202080



You have been given this information leaflet because your surgeon thinks that you might require a bone graft during your forthcoming surgery.

Bone donated by other patients is kept in a 'Bone bank', just like a 'Blood bank'. This bone is obtained mainly from patients who are having a hip replacement but occasionally it is taken from deceased individuals.

If it is possible, your own bone taken from the pelvis will be used. If this is not possible then the surgeon may need to use donated bone from the bone bank to restore your lost bone. Donors are carefully selected and have to undergo extensive tests to minimize risks of known diseases being transmitted to patients receiving the bone grafts.



If you have any concern, please ask your doctor or Nurse

In the United Kingdom the selection process for bone donation is extremely rigorous. Donors are thoroughly questioned about their medical history and life style for possible exposure to diseases which are transmittable.

They are also tested for HIV, HTLV, Syphilis and Hepatitis B & C. Currently, there is no known test to detect vCJD 'mad cow disease'.

In this country, there are no recorded cases of a patient contracting a disease such as vCJD or HIV from bone grafts. A small risk of infection is still present however. You will therefore be asked to sign a form before your surgery giving your consent to receive bone donated by another person and that you understand and accept the very small risk of contracting disease.

All data relating to bone donation and the use of donated bone is stored securely for a period of 30 years. This is a requirement by the law and enables traceability from donor to recipient and vice versa.

All the activities of selecting donors, testing for possible diseases, harvesting the bone, storing and using them are performed under license issued by the Human Tissue Authority (HTA).

This is the regulatory authority which guarantees that organisations performing these activities are compliant with the law and regulations. Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust holds a license number 11093 for storage and use of donated bone.



Every effort is made to ensure your safety

## Human Tissue Authority

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Web page: [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)