

Autologous Transplant

Common Infection Control Questions

Questions Often Asked	Time after Transplant	
The general guidelines below may not apply to your case. You must discuss these rules with your physician to assess if they apply to you. See key at the bottom of the table for numbered footnotes.	From 1-6 Months	From 6 months to 1 year
Animals, Birds, Reptiles, Fish		
Small cage rodents (gerbils, rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs, hedge hogs, prairie dogs, ferrets) Do not handle.	No	Ok
Reptiles and amphibians (snakes, turtles, frogs, lizards, iguanas, etc.)	No	No
Farm animals (pigs, horses, cows, llamas, etc.) Do not handle; stay out of barns full of hay	No	Ok
Wild & game animals (deer, elk, squirrels, bear, etc.) (exotic animals, i.e., monkeys, etc.) Do not handle.	No	No
Zoos & petting zoos	No	No
Public aquariums (3) Do not touch marine life in handling tanks.	No	Ok (3)
Animal trophy mounts in the house	Ok	Ok
Fishing (fresh & salt water) OK to handle fish if wearing gloves; do not bait hooks	Ok	Ok
Hunting (wild game and birds) and sport shooting (2) (Wear latex gloves when handling game; do not clean game with a venous catheter device)	No	Ok (2)
Horseback riding Stay out of barns full of hay.	No	Ok
Cats/dogs (not sleeping with pets, no feeding pets, no bathing or grooming pets)	Ok	Ok
New pets in patient's household	No	No
Cleaning feces, litter boxes, utensils, or cages/tanks, etc.	No	No
Domestic birds (parakeets, parrots, etc.) Not if you have respiratory problems.	No	Ok

Questions Often Asked	Time after Transplant	
The general guidelines below may not apply to your case. You must discuss these rules with your physician to assess if they apply to you. See key at the bottom of the table for footnotes.	From 1- 6 months	From 6 months to 1 year
Poultry & wild birds (pigeons, baby chicks, chickens, ducks, geese, other wild birds, etc.)	No	No
Other Activities		
Golfing (2) (sun protection required; without venous catheter device)	No	Ok
Spectator events and crowds (3) No hand shaking.	No	Ok (3)
Sexual activity	Ok	Ok
Working with mechanical equipment (oil changes, working on cars & engines, etc.)	Ok	Ok
Camping and hiking	Ok	Ok
Down comforters (with cover)	Ok	Ok
School	No	No
Hot tubs (avoid all public hot tubs) (6)	No	Ok (1)
Swimming (1) (without venous catheter device, avoid head submersion & diving, use sun screen)	No	Ok (1)
Gardening (digging in soil); mowing the lawn; raking leaves	No	No
Having plants in the home (not handling) (4)	Ok	Ok
Making/kneading yeast breads (5)	Ok	Ok
Carpenter work	No	No
Occasional woodworking (sawdust)	No	Ok

Key:

- (1)** No swimming if venous access device still in place (i.e., catheter) or patient history of sinusitis. Swim in chlorinated and well-maintained pools. Uncertain water conditions of lakes, rivers and the ocean for swimming are Ok if water is tested routinely for safety by local state and health departments; avoid small bodies of standing water (lakes and ponds). Swimming in pools used by non-toilet trained babies and children not recommended. Water aerobics Ok.
- (2)** Shooting rifles/shotguns & golfing is not recommended if venous access device still in place (such as a catheter).
- (3)** Recommend caution and an understanding of the risk involved when participating in public events or going to locations with large crowds.
- (4)** Real Christmas trees: in the water reservoir of the tree stand, use water solution of 1 part chlorine solution (Chlorox®) in 10 parts water.
- (5)** Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water after kneading dough.
- (6)** Avoid all public hot tubs