

# MEDICATION DEFERRAL LIST



**DO NOT STOP** taking medications prescribed by your doctor in order to donate blood.

Donating while taking these drugs could have a negative effect on your health or on the health of the recipient of your blood.

## PLEASE TELL US IF YOU:

ARE BEING TREATED WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF MEDICATIONS:	OR HAVE TAKEN:			WHICH IS ALSO CALLED:	ANYTIME IN THE LAST:
Anti-platelet agents (usually taken to prevent stroke or heart attack)	Feldene			piroxicam	3 days
	Effient			prasugrel	
	Brilinta			ticagrelor	14 days
	Plavix			clopidogrel	
	Ticlid			ticlopidine	
	Zontivity			vorapaxar	1 month
Anticoagulants or “blood thinners” (usually taken to prevent blood clots in the legs and lungs and to prevent strokes)	Arixtra			fondaparinux	7 days
	Eliquis			apixaban	
	Fragmin			dalteparin	
	Lovenox			enoxaparin	
	Pradaxa			dabigatran	
	Savaysa			edoxaban	
	Xarelto			rivaroxaban	
	Coumadin, Warfilone, Jantoven			warfarin	
	Heparin, low-molecular-weight heparin				
Acne treatment	Accutane Claravis Zenatane	Amnesteem Myorisan	Absorica Sotret	isotretinoin	1 month
Multiple myeloma	Thalomid Revlimid			thalidomide lenalidomide	1 month
Rheumatoid arthritis	Rinvoq			upadacitinib	1 month
Hair loss remedy	Propecia			finasteride	1 month
Prostate symptoms	Proscar			finasteride	1 month
	Avodart Jalyn			dutasteride	6 months
Immunosuppressant	Cellcept			mycophenolate mofetil	6 weeks
Hepatitis exposure	Hepatitis B Immune Globulin			HBIG	3 months
HIV Prevention (also known as PrEP or PEP)	Any medication taken by mouth (oral) to prevent HIV.	Truvada		emtricitabine and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate	3 months
		Descovy		emtricitabine and tenofovir alafenamide	
	Injectable HIV prevention	Apretude		cabotegravir	2 years
		Yeztugo		lenacapavir	
Basal cell skin cancer	Erivedge			vismodegib	2 years
	Odomzo			sonidegib	
Relapsing multiple sclerosis	Aubagio			teriflunomide	2 years
Rheumatoid arthritis	Arava			leflunomide	2 years
Psoriasis	Soriatane			acitretin	3 years
	Tegison			etretinate	Ever
HIV treatment	Any medication to treat HIV. May also be called antiretroviral therapy (ART).				Ever
Experimental Medication					12 months
Memory loss treatment	Aricept			donepezil HCl	Ever
Leg pain/peripheral vascular disease treatment	Pletal			cilostazol	3 days

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**DO NOT STOP** taking medications prescribed by your doctor in order to donate blood.

*Some medications affect your eligibility as a blood donor for the following reasons:*

**Antiplatelet agents affect platelet function**, so people taking these drugs should not donate platelets for the indicated time. You are eligible to donate whole blood or red blood cells by apheresis.

**Anticoagulants or “blood thinners”** are used to treat or prevent blood clots in the legs, lungs, or other parts of the body, and to prevent strokes. These medications affect the blood’s ability to clot, which might cause excessive bruising or bleeding when you donate.

**Isotretinoin, finasteride, dutasteride, acitretin, and etretinate** can cause birth defects. Your donated blood could contain high enough levels to damage the unborn baby if transfused to a pregnant woman.

**Thalomid (thalidomide), Revlimid (lenalidomide), Erivedge (vismodegib), Odomzo (sonidegib), Aubagio (teriflunomide), and Rinvoq (upadacitinib)** may cause birth defects or the death of an unborn baby if transfused to a pregnant woman.

**Cellcept (mycophenolate mofetil) and Arava (leflunomide)** are immunosuppressants that may cause birth defects or the death of an unborn baby if transfused to a pregnant woman.

**PrEP or pre-exposure prophylaxis** involves taking a specific combination of oral medicines (i.e., short-acting antiviral PrEP) or injections (i.e., long-acting antiviral PrEP) as a prevention method for people who are HIV negative and at high risk of HIV infection. FDA has determined that the available data demonstrate that the use of PrEP or PEP may delay the detection of HIV by currently licensed screening tests for blood donations, potentially resulting in false negative results in infected individuals. Although “Undetectable = Untransmittable” for sexual transmission, this **does not apply to transfusion transmission**.

**PEP or post-exposure prophylaxis** is a short-acting treatment started as soon as possible after a high-risk exposure to HIV to reduce the risk of infection. FDA has determined that the available data demonstrate that the use of PrEP or PEP may delay the detection of HIV by currently licensed screening tests for blood donations, potentially resulting in false negative results in infected individuals. Although “Undetectable = Untransmittable” for sexual transmission, this **does not apply to transfusion transmission**.

**ART or antiretroviral therapy** is the use of a combination of HIV medicines (called an HIV regimen) to treat HIV infection. HIV infection requires a permanent deferral despite treatment with ART. Antiretroviral drugs do not fully eliminate the virus from the body, and donated blood from individuals infected with HIV taking ART can potentially still transmit HIV to a transfusion recipient. Although “Undetectable = Untransmittable” for sexual transmission, this **does not apply to transfusion transmission**.

**Hepatitis B Immune Globulin (HBIG)** is an injected material used to prevent hepatitis B infection following a possible or known exposure to hepatitis B. HBIG does not prevent hepatitis B infection in every case; therefore, persons who have received HBIG must wait to donate blood.

**Experimental medications** are usually associated with a research study, and their effect on the safety of transfused blood is unknown.

**Memory loss medications** are usually given to persons experiencing memory loss associated with dementia (i.e., Alzheimer’s disease). As memory is affected by these conditions, we cannot guarantee a complete and accurate health history. Therefore, individuals with these conditions are not eligible to donate. Individuals who are taking this medication due to head trauma or due to a family history of dementia (in order to prevent dementia) may be eligible to donate.

**Medications for leg pain/peripheral vascular disease treatment** may affect platelet function, so people taking these drugs should not donate platelets for the indicated time; however, you may still be able to donate whole blood or red blood cells by apheresis.