

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:	
Antiplatelet agents (usually taken to prevent stroke or heart attack)	Feldene	piroxicam	2 Days	PLT
	Effient	prasugrel	3 Days	PLT
	Brilinta	ticagrelor	7 Days	PLT
	Plavix	clopidogrel	14 Days	PLT
	Ticlid	ticlopidine		
	Zontivity	vorapaxar	1 Month	PLT
Anticoagulants or “blood thinners” (usually taken to prevent blood clots in the legs and lungs and to prevent strokes)	Arixtra	fondaparinux	2 Days	
	Eliquis	apixaban		
	Fragmin	dalteparin		
	Lovenox	enoxaparin		
	Pradaxa	dabigatran		
	Savaysa	edoxaban		
	Xarelto	rivaroxaban		
	Coumadin, Warfilone, Jantoven	warfarin	7 Days	
	Heparin, low-molecular-weight heparin			
Acne treatment	Absorica Myorisan Accutane Sotret Amnesteem Zenatane Claravis	isotretinoin	1 Month	
Multiple myeloma	Thalomid	thalidomide		
Rheumatoid arthritis	Rinvoq	upadacitinib		
Hair loss remedy	Propecia	finasteride		
Prostate symptoms	Proscar	finasteride		
	Avodart Jalyn	dutasteride	6 Months	
Immunosuppressant	Cellcept	mycophenolate mofetil	6 Weeks	
HIV Prevention (PrEP and PEP)	Truvada, Descovy, Tivicay, Isentress	tenofovir, emtricitabine, dolutegravir, raltegravir	3 Months	
Basal cell skin cancer	Erivedge Odomzo	vismodegib, sonidegib	24 Months	
Relapsing multiple sclerosis	Aubagio	teriflunomide		
Rheumatoid arthritis	Arava	leflunomide		
Hepatitis exposure	Hepatitis B Immune Globulin	HBIG		
Experimental Medication or Unlicensed (Experimental) Vaccine			12 months	
Psoriasis	Soriatane	acitretin	36 Months	
	Tegison	etretinate	Ever	
HIV treatment also known as antiretroviral therapy (ART)				
Insulin			Currently (See p. 2)	
Anti-seizure or epilepsy – medications such as those shown; deferral is for seizures, not the medication itself	Tegretol	carbamazepine, phenytoin	Deferral may be up to 1 Year (See page 2)	
	Dilantin			
	Aptiom			
Steroidal anti-inflammatories	Steroids	cortisone, prednisone	7 days (by mouth or injection)	
Blood clot or stroke prevention	Pletal	cilostazol	5 days	PLT
Injection for autoimmune disease	Enbrel injection with Methotrexate		7 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 may still be able 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), 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 medicines as a prevention method for people who are HIV negative and at high risk of HIV infection.

PEP or post-exposure prophylaxis is a short-term treatment started as soon as possible after a high-risk exposure to HIV to reduce the risk of infection.

ART or antiretroviral therapy is the daily use of a combination of HIV medicines (called an HIV regimen) to treat HIV infection.

Insulin is an injected medicine used to treat diabetes. You may donate if your diabetes is under control with a stable insulin dose.

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 Medication or Unlicensed (Experimental) Vaccine is usually associated with a research study, and the effect on the safety of transfused blood is unknown.

Anti-seizure Medications are usually taken to limit seizures/convulsions/epilepsy. If taking medications such as those listed to avoid or control seizures, the donor must have had no more than 1 seizure in the past year and none in the past 3 months to be eligible to donate. If seizures have occurred in these time periods, a deferral is given for the donor's safety. No deferrals needed if these medications are taken for a non-seizure diagnosis.

Steroids are medications that can be prescribed to decrease inflammation and swelling. Steroids may mask an underlying infection, so a donor should be deferred for 1 week after the prescribed last dose when taken by mouth or injection. (No deferral for topical steroids, e.g., cream applied to skin, eyedrops.)

Cilostazol (Pletal) is a medication given to improve circulation in the legs. This medication may affect platelet function, so a donor may not give platelets until five days after the last dose.

Enbrel injection taken with Methotrexate inhibits inflammation and immune responses. May mask an underlying infection, so a donor should be deferred for 1 week after the last injection of Enbrel.