

Joint Program in Transfusion Medicine  
Brigham and Women's Hospital / Dana Farber Cancer Institute  
Boston, MA 02115

## **Offsite FastTrak Donor Education Material**

**Form # 20-09**

### **READ THIS BEFORE YOU DONATE!**

We know that you would not donate unless you think your blood is safe. However, in order for us to assess all risks that may affect you or a patient receiving a transfusion, it is essential that you answer each question completely and accurately. If you do not understand a question, skip over it and it will be addressed during the health review process with staff when you arrive to donate. All information you provide is confidential.

#### **To determine if you are eligible to donate we will:**

- Ask about your health and travel
- Ask about medications you are taking or have taken
- Ask about your risk for infections that can be transmitted by blood- especially AIDS and viral hepatitis
- Take your blood pressure, temperature, and pulse
- Take a blood sample to be sure your blood count is acceptable

#### **If you are eligible to donate we will:**

- Clean your arm with an antiseptic. Tell us if you have any skin allergies
- Use a new, sterile disposable needle to collect your blood

### **DONOR ELIGIBILITY- SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

Certain diseases, such as AIDS and hepatitis, can be spread through sexual contact and enter your bloodstream. We will ask specific questions about sexual contact.

#### **What do we mean by "sexual contact"?**

The words "have sexual contact with" and "sex" are used in some of the questions we will ask you, and apply to any of the activities below, whether or not a condom or other protection is used:

- Vaginal sex (contact between penis and vagina)
- Oral sex (mouth or tongue on vagina, penis, or anus)
- Anal sex (contact between penis and anus)

### **HIV/AIDS risk behaviors**

HIV is the virus that causes AIDS. It is spread mainly by sexual contact with an infected person OR by sharing needles or syringes used by an infected person for injecting drugs.

#### **Do not donate if you:**

- Have AIDS or have ever had a positive HIV test
- Have used needles to take any drugs not prescribed by your doctor IN THE PAST 3 MONTHS
- Are a male who has had sexual contact with another male, IN THE PAST 3 MONTHS
- Have taken money, drugs or other payment for sex IN THE PAST 3 MONTHS
- Have had sexual contact IN THE PAST 3 MONTHS with anyone described above
- Have had syphilis or gonorrhea IN THE PAST 3 MONTHS
- Have been in juvenile detention, lockup, jail, or prison for more than 72 consecutive hours IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS

Your blood can transmit infections, including HIV/AIDS, even if you feel well and all your tests are normal. This is because even the best tests cannot detect the virus for a period of time after you are infected.

**DO NOT DONATE TO GET A TEST!** If you think you may be at risk for HIV/AIDS or any other infection, do not donate simply to get a test. Ask us where you can be tested outside the donor center.

The following symptoms can be present before an HIV test turns positive:

- Fever
- Enlarged glands
- Sore throat
- Rash

**DO NOT** donate if you have these symptoms!

### **IMPORTANT NEW INFORMATION**

#### **DO NOT DONATE if you:**

- Are taking any medication to prevent HIV infection. These medications may be known by you under the following names: PrEP, PEP, Truvada, or Descovy.
- Have taken such a medication in the past 3 months.
- Have EVER taken any medication to treat HIV infection.

### **Travel to or birth in other countries**

Blood donor tests may not be available for some infections that are found only in certain countries. If you were born in, have lived in, or visited certain countries, you may not be eligible to donate.

**WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOUR DONATION**

To protect patients, your blood is tested for several types of hepatitis, HIV, syphilis, and other infections. If your blood tests positive it will not be given to a patient. There are times when your blood is not tested. If this occurs, you may not receive any notification. You will be notified about any positive test result which may disqualify you from donating in the future. The blood center will not release your test results without your written permission unless required by law (e.g. to the Health Department).

**THANK YOU FOR DONATING TODAY!**

**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 medications within the times frames specified below:**

<b>Are being treated with any of the following types of medications:</b>	<b>Or have taken:</b>	<b>Which is also called:</b>	<b>Anytime in the last:</b>
<b>Anti-platelet agents (usually taken to prevent stroke or heart attack)</b>	Feldene	piroxicam	2 days
	Effient	prasugrel	3 days
	Brilinta	ticagrelor	7 days
	Plavix	clopidogrel	14 days
	Ticlid	ticlopidine	14 days
	Zontivity	vorapaxar	1 month
<b>Anticoagulants or “blood thinners” (usually to prevent blood clots in the legs and lungs and to prevent strokes)</b>	Arixtra	fondaparinux	2 days
	Eliquis	apixaban	2 days
	Fragmin	dalteparin	2 days
	Lovenox	enoxaparin	2 days
	Pradaxa	dabigatran	2 days
	Savaysa	edoxaban	2 days
	Xarelto	Rivaroxaban	2 days
	Coumadin, Warfilone, Jantoven	warfarin	7 days
	Heparin, low molecular weight heparin	heparin	7 days

<b>Are being treated with any of the following types of medications:</b>	<b>Or have taken:</b>	<b>Which is also called:</b>	<b>Anytime in the last:</b>
<b>Acne treatment</b>	Accutane	isotretinoin	1 month
	Amnesteem	isotretinoin	1 month
	Absorica	isotretinoin	1 month
	Claravis	isotretinoin	1 month
	Myorisan	isotretinoin	1 month
	Sotret	isotretinoin	1 month
	Zenatane	isotretinoin	1 month
<b>Multiple myeloma</b>	Thalomid	thalidomide	1 month
<b>Hair loss remedy</b>	Propecia	finasteride	1 month
<b>Prostate symptoms</b>	Proscar	finasteride	1 month
	Avodart or Jalyn	dutasteride	6 months
<b>Immunosuppressant</b>	Cellcept	Mycophenolate or mofetil	6 weeks
<b>Basal cell skin cancer</b>	Erivedge	vismodegib	24 months
	Odomzo	sonidegib	24 months
<b>Relapsing multiple sclerosis</b>	Aubagio	teriflunomide	24 months
<b>Rheumatoid arthritis</b>	Arava	leflunomide	24 months
<b>Hepatitis exposure</b>	Hepatitis B Immune Globulin	HBIG	12 months
<b>Psoriasis</b>	Soriatane	acitretin	36 months
	Tegison	etretinate	Ever
<b>Growth hormone from human pituitary glands</b>			Ever
<b>Insulin from Cows (bovine or beef insulin) manufactured in the United Kingdom</b>			Ever

**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:*

**Anti-platelet agents 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 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; however, you may still be able to donate whole blood or red cells by apheresis.

**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)** 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 which may cause birth defects or the death of an unborn baby if transfused to a pregnant woman.

**Growth hormone from human pituitary glands** was prescribed for children with delayed or impaired growth. The hormone was obtained from human pituitary glands, which are in the brain. Some people who took this hormone developed a rare nervous system condition called Creutzfeldt- Jakob Disease (CJD, for short).

**Insulin from cows (bovine, or beef, insulin)** is an injected medicine used to treat diabetes. If this insulin came to the United States from the United Kingdom (where “mad cow disease” has occurred) it could contain material from cattle that have “mad cow disease”. Although no cases of the human type of “mad cow disease” have been reported in people treated with bovine (beef) insulin, there is concern that someone exposed to “mad cow disease” through beef insulin could transmit it to someone who receives their blood.

**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 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. An exception to this is the Covid 19 vaccine study trials- if you are participating in one of these vaccine trials, contact the donor center to learn if you are eligible to donate blood products.

### **List of Countries in the United Kingdom (UK)**

You may not be eligible to donate blood if you:

- From 1980 through 1996 spent time that adds up to three (3) months or more in the UK
- From 1980 through 2001 spent time that adds up to five (5) years or more in France or Ireland
- From 1980 to the present received a blood transfusion in the UK or France or Ireland

**The countries in the United Kingdom (UK) are:** England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands, Gibraltar, and the Falkland Islands

## **Blood Component Donor Consent**

**Allogeneic Donors:** I give my consent to be a blood donor. The medical history I have provided is true to the best of my knowledge. I am at least 17 years old. I have read (or have had read to me) and understand “What You Should Know Before Giving Blood” as well as any additional information provided to me today. I have had or understand I will have the opportunity to ask questions about the information provided. If I consider myself to be at risk for spreading viral hepatitis or the virus known to cause AIDS HIV), I agree not to donate for transfusion to another person. I grant permission for my blood to be tested for HIV, hepatitis, syphilis, other infectious diseases, and other conditions, such as hemoglobin S (sickle trait). I understand that if a test result is positive or unclear that my blood will not be used, I will be notified, and my name placed on a list of deferred donors. I understand that lab results will be kept confidential, but may need to be reported to government agencies, including state or local health departments. I understand there may be circumstances in which infectious disease testing is not performed. I recognize that potential complications from donating blood and blood products include nausea, lightheadedness, dizziness or fainting, as well as pain, bruising, bleeding or infection at the site where the needle is inserted. Repeated whole blood donations can lead to iron deficiency and anemia. I voluntarily furnish my blood product to the Blood Bank to use as needed for patient care, quality programs, and/or research. I may ask questions regarding the donation at any time and am free to discontinue at any time.

**Additional Information for Platelet Donors:** All precautions are taken to avoid complications, but there is a small chance that bacterial contamination of my blood may occur. There is a possibility that, due to technical failure, I might not get my blood back. Other risks associated with this procedure are related to the infusion of ACD, and I may feel tingling around my mouth or slight twitching of my muscles. I might experience chills. I understand I can donate platelets up to 24 times in a 365-day period.

## **Understanding HLA Testing and Transfusion Related Lung Injury (TRALI)**

### **Do I need to be tested for antibodies to HLA antigens?**

Regulations now require that platelets and plasma from female donors who have had a pregnancy resulting in a live birth be tested and have results interpreted as negative for HLA antibodies. This will affect many of our female donors, some of whom will not be allowed to donate platelets or plasma if their test results are positive for HLA antibodies. If you are positive, you can continue to donate whole blood.

### **What is TRALI?**

TRALI is an uncommon reaction in patients after blood transfusion, but it is a leading cause of death due to transfusion. Currently, most cases are caused by specific antibodies, called anti-HLA antibodies, which female donors can make naturally after a pregnancy resulting in a live birth.

### **Why are HLA antibodies created during a pregnancy resulting in a live birth?**

The HLA (human leukocyte antigen) system is the genetic fingerprint of your immune system. Nearly everyone's HLA type is different from one another. So not surprisingly, a father's HLA type is almost never the same as the mothers. During a pregnancy resulting in a live birth, mothers are often exposed to HLA antigens from the father (that are in the baby) through small, insignificant bleeds from the placenta. The mother's immune system can see these HLA antigens as foreign because she does not have them, and thus, makes antibodies to those antigens. These antibodies are of no consequence to the mother's health, but they end up in the platelet and plasma products that are transfused to patients. It is believed that these antibodies play a role in causing TRALI in certain patients.

### **What can I do if I test positive for HLA antibodies?**

While you are no longer eligible to donate platelets or plasma, you can still donate whole blood and we ask that you consider scheduling an appointment to donate whole blood. You are still a valued member of the Kraft Family Blood Donor Center and we ask that you continue to be involved by continuing to donate or volunteer with us!

# **FastTrak**

---