



Medication Deferral List

Please tell us if you are now taking or if you have EVER taken any of these medications:

- Proscar (finasteride)** – usually given for prostate gland enlargement
- Avodart (dutasteride)** and **Jalyn (dutasteride)** – usually given for prostate enlargement
- Propecia (finasteride)** – usually given for baldness
- Accutane (Amnesteem, Claravis, Sotret, isotretinoin)** – usually given for severe acne
- Soriatane (acitretin)** – usually given for severe psoriasis
- Tegison (etretinate)** – usually given for severe psoriasis
- Growth Hormone from Human Pituitary Glands** – used usually for children with delayed or impaired growth
- Insulin from Cows (Bovine, or Beef, Insulin)** – used to treat diabetes
- Hepatitis B Immune Globulin** – given following an exposure to hepatitis B
Note: This is different from the hepatitis B vaccine which is a series of 3 injections given over a 6 month period to prevent future infection from exposures to hepatitis B.
- Plavix (clopidogrel)** and **Ticlid (ticlopidine)** – inhibits platelet function; used to reduce the chance for heart attack and stroke
- Feldene (piroxicam)** – given for mild to moderate arthritis pain
- Experimental Medication or Unlicensed (Experimental) Vaccine** – usually associated with a research protocol
- Coumadin (Jantoven, warfarin)** and **Heparin** and **Fragmin (dalteparin)** and **Pletal (cilostazol)** – usually given to prevent blood clots (blood thinner)
- Remicade (infliximab)** and **Enbrel (etanercept)** and **Humira (adalimumab)** – usually given to treat psoriasis, arthritis, or Crohn's disease
- Effient (prasugrel)** – prevents clots – usually given to prevent heart attacks, stroke, or other vascular events in people who are high risk
- Orencia (abatacept)** – usually given to treat moderate to severe active rheumatoid arthritis in adults and juvenile idiopathic arthritis
- Pradaxa (dabigatran etexilate)** – prevents clots – usually given to prevent strokes in people who have atrial fibrillation
- Aggrenox (dipyridamole)** – used to reduce the risk of stroke in people who have blood clots
- Lovenox (enoxaparin)** – used to prevent deep vein thrombosis (DVT)

If you would like to know why these medicines affect you as a blood donor, please keep reading:

- If you have taken or are taking **Proscar, Avodart, Jalyn, Propecia, Accutane, Soriatane, or Tegison**, these medications can cause birth defects. Your donated blood could contain high enough levels to damage the unborn baby if transfused to a pregnant woman. Once the medication has been cleared from your blood, you may donate again. Following the last dose, the deferral period is one month for Proscar, Propecia and Accutane, six months for Avodart and Jalyn, and three years for Soriatane. Tegison is a permanent deferral.
- **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 found in the brain. Some people who took this hormone developed a rare nervous system condition called Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD, for short). The deferral is permanent.
- **Insulin from cows (bovine, or beef, insulin)** is an injected material used to treat diabetes. If this insulin was imported into the US from countries in which “Mad Cow Disease” has been found, it could contain material from infected cattle. There is concern that “Mad Cow Disease” is transmitted by transfusion. The deferral is indefinite.
- **Hepatitis B Immune Globulin (HBIG)** is an injected material used to prevent infection following an exposure to hepatitis B. HBIG does not prevent hepatitis B infection in every case, therefore, persons who have received HBIG must wait 12 months to donate blood to be sure they were not infected since hepatitis B can be transmitted through transfusion to a patient.
- **Feldene** is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug that can affect platelet function. A donor taking Feldene will not be able to donate platelets for 2 days; however, its use will not affect whole blood donations.
- **Plavix and Ticlid** are medications that can decrease the chance of a heart attack or stroke in individuals at risk for these conditions. Since these medications can affect platelets, anyone taking Plavix or Ticlid will not be able to donate platelets for 14 days after the last dose. Use of either medication will not prohibit whole blood donations.
- **Experimental Medication or Unlicensed (Experimental) Vaccine** is usually associated with a research protocol and the effect on blood donation is unknown. Deferral is one year unless otherwise indicated by Medical Director.