



FDA Guidance Update to Criteria Information as of July 15, 2020

What is new?

On April 2, 2020 the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued new blood donor eligibility guidance. These changes are based on studies and epidemiologic data showing these changes would expand the number of eligible donors in a way that would maintain the safety of the blood supply.

What areas are affected

- Transfusion-Transmitted Malaria
- Transmission of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) and Variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (vCJD)
- Exposure risks for blood-borne infections

Changes to Travel Criteria (Malaria)

The following deferral criteria period changed from 12 months to 3 months.

- Persons who traveled to malaria endemic area(s)

Changes to CJD and vCJD and Travel Criteria

The following deferral criteria will be eliminated.

- Persons who spent time in European countries on military bases
- Having spent time in certain European countries (France and Ireland are still at risk)

Changes to HIV/AIDS Risk Criteria

The following deferral criteria period changes from 12 months to 3 months.

- Persons with tattoos and piercings done using non-sterile procedure or non-single use equipment. ***(There remains no wait to donate if your tattoo or piercing was done in a state licensed facility in the U.S. using sterile procedure and single use equipment was used.)***
- Persons exposed blood, grafts, tissue or transplants
- For males, having sex with another man
- For females, having sex with a man, who had sex with another man
- Having sex with a sex worker and/or IV drug user.

The following deferral criteria period changes from indefinite to 3 months.

- Person who exchanged money or Drugs for sex
- Use of needles to take drugs, steroids, or anything not prescribed by your doctor

Will I be able to donate?

If you were deferred in the past and have not been contacted by us about a change to your deferral status, please contact us at 800-398-7888 to determine your eligibility according to the new criteria.

To schedule a donation appointment	(800) 398-7888 https://www.bloodworksnw.org
Review our criteria before donating	https://www.bloodworksnw.org/donate/eligibility
Complete your QuickPass questionnaire on the day of your donation appointment	https://www.bloodworksnw.org/quickpass
General questions about FDA changes and your eligibility to donate	800-398-7888