Medication Deferral List

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

- **Proscar (finasteride)—**Usually prescribed for prostate gland enlargement.
- **Avodart, Jalyn (dutasteride)—**Usually prescribed for prostate enlargement.
- **Propecia (finasteride)—**Usually prescribed for baldness.
- **Accutane, Amnesteem, Claravis, Sotret (isotretinoin)—**Usually prescribed for severe acne.
- **Soriatane (acitretin)—**Usually prescribed for severe psoriasis.
- **Tegison (etretinate)—**Usually prescribed for severe psoriasis.
- **Growth Hormone from Human Pituitary Glands—**Used only until 1985, usually prescribed for children with delayed or impaired growth.
- **Insulin from Cows (Bovine, or Beef, Insulin)—**Used to treat diabetes.
- **Hepatitis B Immune Globulin—**Prescribed following an exposure to hepatitis B. **Note:** This is different from the hepatitis B vaccine which is a series of 3 injections administered over a 6 month period to prevent future infection from exposures to hepatitis B.
- **Coumadin (warfarin)—**Usually prescribed to treat patients with blood clots.
- **Unlicensed Vaccine—**Usually associated with a research protocol.

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

- If you have taken or are taking **Proscar, Avodart, Jalyn, Propecia, Accutane, Amnesteem, Claravis, Sotret, 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, Accutane, Amnesteem, Claravis, and Sotret, six months for Avodart and Jalyn, and three years for Soriatane. Tegison is a permanent deferral.
- **Growth hormone from human pituitary glands** was prescribed until 1985 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 U.S. 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.
- **Coumadin** affects the ability of blood to clot. Donors currently taking Coumadin may not donate plasma until 7 days after stopping Coumadin.
- **Unlicensed Vaccine** is usually associated with a research protocol and the effect on blood transmission is unknown. Deferral is one year unless otherwise indicated by Medical Director.

If You Are Planning to Donate Platelets Today

Please tell us if you are currently taking any of the following medications:

- **Plavix (clopidogrel)—**Plavix and the generic clopidogrel are antiplatelets usually prescribed to prevent strokes and heart attacks. Donors currently taking this medication may not donate platelets until 14 days after stopping Plavix.
- **Dipyridamole—**Dipyridamole prevents platelet clumping and is often used to prevent blood clots from forming. Donors currently taking this medication should not donate platelets.
- **Ticlid (ticlopidine)—**Ticlid has been used to prevent stroke. Donors currently taking this medication may not donate platelets until 14 days after stopping Ticlid.
- **Feldene (piroxicam)—**Feldene is used to treat pain or inflammation caused by arthritis. Donors currently taking this medication may not donate platelets until 2 days after stopping Feldene.

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