800-747-5401

DONOR ELIGIBILITY

Age: You must be 17 years old, or 16 years old with a parental consent form.

Weight: at least 110 pounds.

Health: You must be in good health and feeling well on the day of donation. Prospective donors should eat a full meal within four hours of donating, avoiding fried, fatty foods and whole dairy products.

I.D. required to donate: Photo ID required. Contact the blood center for religious exceptions.

Allergy shots: Acceptable

Antibiotics: Complexion and prevention of urinary tract infection (women only) – acceptable, other – 48 hours after final dose, if the reason for taking the antibiotics has been eliminated. If antibiotics were received by injection, you must wait 2 weeks before donating.

Autologous (Self-donation): eligible one year after surgery.

Blood donation: Whole blood: 56 days (8 weeks) since last donation. Automated, double red cells: 112 days.

Blood transfusion: one year after receiving blood or blood products.

Cancer: One year after treatment completed with no recurrence. Leukemia and Lymphomas cannot be accepted. Carcinoma *in situ* of cervix is acceptable. Skin cancer is usually acceptable if basal or squamous cell. Melanoma —one year after completion of treatment and no recurrence.

Colds: Accept if no fever, sore throat, cough associated with a cold, headache, fatigue and not on antibiotics. Over the counter cold remedies are acceptable in the absence of the above symptoms.

Contact with HIV/AIDS: Eligible after 12 months in most circumstances.

Dental work: Eligible 7 days after dental procedure if no infection and not receiving antibiotics. Routine teeth cleaning is acceptable.

Diabetes: Acceptable if well on day of donation.

Ears or skin pierced: Acceptable if sterile, single use equipment was used. Otherwise: 12 month deferral. Acupuncture acceptable if performed using sterile or single-use needle.

Tattoos: Acceptable if tattoo was applied in a licensed facility in a regulated state. Otherwise: 12 month deferral.

Epilepsy Medications: Acceptable if seizure-free for 3 months.

Hay Fever: Acceptable. Hay fever remedies are acceptable.

Heart Conditions: An angiogram is acceptable if results were normal. Angioplasty (balloon), stent, or heart attack are acceptable after 6 months if stable and no activity restrictions. Heart surgery is a 12 month deferral if stable and no restrictions.

Herpes Simplex 1: (Cold Sore)

Acceptable, when outbreak is dry and crusted.

Herpes Simplex 2: (Venereal)

Acceptable, when outbreak is dry and crusted.

Major surgery: Most surgeries are acceptable when healed, released from immediate doctor's care, infection-free, no blood was transfused, and return to normal activities.

Minor surgery: Acceptable if no sign of infection. Stitches and casts are acceptable.

Medications: vitamins, hormones, birth control pills, thyroid medications, aspirin, fertility drugs, non-steroid anti-inflammatory and pain medications are all acceptable.

Pregnancy: Acceptable 6 weeks after delivery or termination of pregnancy. Breast-feeding is acceptable.

Ulcers: Acceptable if symptom-free at the time of donation. Most medications are acceptable.

Vaccinations: 21 days after hepatitis B or combination Hepatitis B and A vaccines (Heptavax, Energix, Recombivax), 4 weeks after MMR, Shingles and Chickenpox (herpes zoster vaccine or Varivax). Flu shots are acceptable.

If you have had the following, you cannot donate blood:

- Blood disease, such as leukemia
- Hepatitis B or C
- HIV: positive test or risk of infection
- Lymphoma
- Creutzfeldt Jakob Disease: If you have lived in or traveled to the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands, Gibraltar, Falkland Islands and Isle of Man) for a cumulative time of 3 months or more between 1980 and 1996 or since 1980, if you have spent time that adds up to 5 years or more in Europe. Also, if associated with a military base in Spain, Portugal, Turkey, Italy or Greece for 6 months from 1980-1996 or a military base in Belgium, Netherlands or Germany for 6 months from 1980-1990.
- In the past 3 years you have taken Acitretin (Soriatane or Neotig).
- In the past 6 months you have taken Dutasteride (Avodart or Jalyn).
- In the past 1 month you have taken Finasteride (Proscar or Propecia)
 Isotretinoin (Accutane, Amnesteem, Claravis, Sotret, Absorica, Myorisan, Zenatane) or Misoprostol (Arthrotec).
- Ever taken Etretinate (Tegison)

PLATELET APHERESIS DONOR ELIGIBILITY

GENERAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: Same as whole blood donor

Age: Donors must be age 17 or 16 with parental consent form. There is no upper age limit.

Weight: At least 110 lbs.

Health: Must be well on the day of donation.

I.D. required to donate: Photo ID required. Contact the blood center for religious exceptions.

Medications

No aspirin or aspirin products can be taken 48 hours before donating, because aspirin affects platelets' ability to function properly.

Some other medications affect platelets and may result in a temporary inability to donate. Piroxicam (Feldene) use requires a 2-day deferral after stopping. The anti-platelet drugs clopidogrel (Plavix), ticlopidine (Ticlid), cilostazol (Pletal), Aggrenox (dipyridamole), Brilinta (ticagrelor) and Effient (Prasugrel) require 14-day deferrals.

Ibuprofen Motrin, Advil and many other non-aspirin drugs are acceptable.

To be certain a medication is acceptable, call MVRBC and ask to speak to someone in Donor Record Logistics. Donors must never stop prescribed drugs in order to donate, unless they have cleared this with their doctor.

Platelet Donation Frequency

Once a week, up to 24 times a year.

Our bodies are constantly replacing platelets. Healthy individuals have a surplus of platelets, so removal of this quantity has no adverse effects.

Wait 7 days after a platelet donation to give whole blood.

Wait 7 days after a whole blood donation to donate platelets.

Wait 28 days after a plasma product donation to donate whole blood.

Wait 112 days after a double red cell donation.

If you have any additional eligibility questions, call MVRBC.

800-747-5401

Further information about donor eligibility can also be found on our website: www.bloodcenter.org.

