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)** – 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
- **Methimazole** – used in treatment of hyperthyroidism
- **Multaq** – used to treat cardiac arrhythmias

- **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.

- **Unlicensed Vaccine –** usually associated with a research protocol

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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, Propecia, Methimazole, 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**, **Methimazole,** and **Accutane**, six months for **Avodart** 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" may be 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.

- **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 the Blood Bank pathologist.