

Answers to

COMMON QUESTIONS

ABOUT DONOR ELIGIBILITY

Can I donate if...

- I am taking an aspirin a day? Yes, you can donate.
- I have diabetes? You can donate if you are feeling well, regardless of blood sugar level.
- I have a thyroid condition? If thyroid is controlled by medication, you can donate.
- I have high blood pressure? If your blood pressure is controlled, you can donate.
- I had cancer? Most cancers have a three-year deferral. Minor skin cancers have a two-week deferral. Leukemia and lymphoma are the only cancers that have an indefinite deferral.
- I have recently had a pregnancy/miscarriage? You can donate six weeks after the end of your pregnancy.
- I am taking anti-depressants? Yes, you can donate.
- I am 16 years old? Yes, you can donate if you weigh at least 122 pounds, are in good general health and have parental consent.
- I had surgery? Yes, you can donate. If you had a blood transfusion, you are deferred for one year.
- I am on antibiotics? You can donate 48 hours after you complete your medication and are symptom free.
- I have Hepatitis A/B/C? You can donate if you had Hepatitis A prior to age 11.
You cannot donate if you had Hepatitis A after age 11.
You cannot donate if you had Hepatitis B or C at any age.
- I have traveled to the United Kingdom? You cannot donate if you spent a cumulative total of three months or more between 1980 and 1996, traveled to Europe for a cumulative total of five years or more since 1980, or were a member of the U.S. Military, a civilian military employee, or dependent of a member of the U.S. Military stationed in Europe for six months or more during certain periods of time between 1980 and 1996.
- I just got a tattoo? You can donate one week after getting a tattoo in a licensed facility.
- I am over a certain age? There is no maximum age limit.

For more information, please call Donor Services at **(713) 791-6608** or email medops@giveblood.org.

**Gulf Coast Regional
Blood Center**
Commit for Life.®