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BLOOD DONOR POOL EXPANDS WITH UPDATED DONOR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
Previously Deferred Donors May Now Be Able to Donate Blood

SAN DIEGO (July 26, 2022) New updates by the Food and Drug Administration are allowing individuals who were previously deferred from donating blood because of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (Mad Cow) and others who were deferred for risk factors, including geographical risk factors for variant CJD.

Some of the changes include removing the deferral for those who have spent up to 3 months or more cumulatively in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and other countries of the United Kingdom as well as anyone who has received a blood transfusion in France, Ireland, England, Scotland, and other countries that previously caused deferral.

Please see the full list of changes at SanDiegoBloodBank.org/madcow-update.

“These changes will allow many individuals who were previously deferred to re-enter the donor pool and help save lives,” said San Diego Blood Bank CEO Doug Morton. “We are excited to have more people join our lifesaving family.”

To be eligible to donate blood, you must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 114 pounds and be in general good health. Appointments are recommended and available at www.sandiegobloodbank.org/donate or by calling (619) 400-8251.

About San Diego Blood Bank
San Diego Blood Bank is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization also operating as Southern California Blood Bank. The Blood Bank serves hospitals throughout Southern California. San Diego Blood Bank is dedicated to community health by providing a reliable supply of blood to patients in need. Our vision is to further ensure the health of our community by simultaneously delivering related health and wellness education and services and collaborating with various partners in medical research. San Diego Blood Bank currently operates nine fixed-site donation locations and 10 bloodmobiles. For more information about SDBB, visit www.SanDiegoBloodBank.org or connect with us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Linkedin.

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