



**America's Blood Centers**<sup>®</sup>  
It's About *Life.*

1717 K Street NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20006

Tel: 202-393-5725 | Fax: 202-899-2621

[www.AmericasBlood.org](http://www.AmericasBlood.org)

**ABC statement on FDA's Men who have had Sex with Men (MSM)**  
**Blood Donor Deferral**

America's Blood Centers and its members are committed to maintaining a safe and available blood supply and treating all potential donors with fairness, equality and respect. To that end, we strongly support ongoing research initiatives designed to determine if donor-screening alternatives based on individual behaviors, not based on sexual or gender identity, will provide equivalent or superior transfusion safety.

We encourage the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to continue its examination of deferral criteria for men who have had sex with men (MSM) to ensure the use of rational, science-based deferral periods that are applied fairly and consistently among blood donors.