

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **xxxx-xxxx**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: NIH, Project Clearance Branch, 6705 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7974, Bethesda, MD 20892-7974, ATTN: PRA(XXXX-XXXX). Do not return the completed form to this address.

**OMB Number: XXXX-XXX**  
**OMB Expiration Date: XX/XX/XXX**

**Attachment 2 – Web-based Questionnaire**  
**OMB Number: TBD**



Congratulations! Based on your answers, you are eligible to take our survey. Please read this consent form carefully before deciding whether you wish to participate in this study.

---

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO**  
**CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH STUDY**  
**Blood Donation Rules Opinion Study, Blood DROPS.**

---

Research studies include only people who choose to take part. This is a research study about the views of men who have sex with men on blood donation. The study researchers are Dr. Brian Custer, PhD, MPH from Blood Systems Research Institute and Nicolas Sheon, Ph.D. from the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California, San Francisco. If you have any questions, you may contact the researchers using the information below.

**Why is this study being done?**

The purpose of this study is to learn more about people's views on blood donation deferral policies.

**Am I eligible to take this survey?**

You are being asked to take part in this study because you have either never been tested for HBV, HCV, or HIV, or have not tested positive for any of these viruses, are age 18 years or older, live in one of the research sites, have access to the Internet, and able to complete the survey using a computer located in the U.S. You may complete only one survey. In addition, only one member of a household is eligible to take the survey, and only one email account may be used to receive compensation for completing the survey.

**Who pays for this study?**

The U.S Federal Government is paying for this study through research funds from the Food and Drug Administration and from the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health.

**How many people will take part in this study?**

About 5000 people will take part in this study.

**What will happen if I take part in this research study?**

If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to complete a web-based survey. You will be asked basic demographic questions, and

questions related to blood donation eligibility policies. In particular you will be asked questions about your sexual history and your blood donation history. You will also be asked to provide your opinion about blood donation policies for men who have sex with men. It will take you approximately 20 minutes to complete the survey.

**Are there any risks to me or to my privacy?**

Some of the survey questions may make you feel uncomfortable or raise unpleasant memories. You are free to skip any question. All of your responses are confidential.

We will do our best to protect the information we collect from you. Any information that could be used to identify you will be kept secure. We will store the survey data, encrypted on a password-protected computer. Only a small number of researchers will have direct access to completed surveys. If this study is published or presented at scientific meetings, names or other information that might identify you will not be used.

To help us protect your privacy, we have obtained a Certificate of Confidentiality from the National Institutes of Health. With this Certificate, the researchers cannot be forced to disclose information that may identify you, even by a court subpoena, in any federal, state, or local civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, or other proceedings. A Certificate of Confidentiality does not prevent you or a member of your family from voluntarily releasing information about yourself or your involvement in this research. If an insurer, employer, or other person obtains your written consent to receive research information, then the researchers may not use the Certificate to withhold that information. Finally, the Certificate may not be used to withhold information from the Federal government needed for auditing or evaluating Federally funded projects or information needed by the FDA.

Certain types of information will be automatically collected from your web browser and Internet connection. As explained earlier in the survey, this information includes:

- *IP (Internet Protocol) address:* Your computer uses an IP address every time you connect to the Internet. It is a unique number that is used to identify computers on a network, so that data requested (such as web pages) can be sent to the computer.
- *General information about your web browser, type of device (such as a Dell computer, iPad, etc.) and operating system you are using.* Web browsers automatically send this information when you visit any web site.
- *The "referring web site,"* which is information passed along by your web browser indicating the web site you linked from to reach this survey.

**None of this information will be used to personally identify you**, and researchers will only analyze the information for determining the validity of survey data. This information will be collected only for the stated reason and not used later for any other reason. The researchers will not try to access your computer, or gather any other information aside from your answers to survey questions and the electronic information already described above.

IP address information will be deleted and destroyed immediately after the researchers complete their analysis of the survey project.

**Are there any eligibility requirements for how I access the online survey?**

Yes. If you access the survey using a service called an "anonymous web proxy" that conceals or falsifies your true IP address, or use any other electronic method that misrepresents information about your Internet connection, you are not eligible to complete this survey. Although some individuals make legitimate use of web proxies to protect their online information, we require you to temporarily forgo this minimal loss of privacy

to complete the survey. The purpose of this requirement is not to identify individuals, but rather to block respondents from completing multiple surveys, granting researchers the ability to detect and prevent fraudulent behavior.

**Can I say "No," or stop being in the study?**

Yes. You do not have to complete the survey and can decide to stop at any time.

**Are there benefits to taking part in the study?**

There will be no direct benefit to you from participating in this study. However, the information that you provide may help health professionals better understand blood donor policies and how they affect potential donors.

**Who can answer my questions about the study?**

You can talk with study researchers or your local blood bank about any questions, concerns, or complaints you may have about this study. Contact Dr Brian Custer at 415-901-0756 or Dr. Nicolas Sheon at 415-597-9109. You may also email us at [blood@ucsf.edu](mailto:blood@ucsf.edu).

If you wish to ask questions about the study or your rights as a research participant to someone other than the researchers, or if you wish to voice any problems or concerns you may have about the study, please call the Office of the Committee on Human Research of the University of California, San Francisco at 415-476-1814.

**Will I be paid for taking part in this study?**

In return for your time and effort for completing the survey, you will receive a \$10 Amazon.com gift code within 30 days. Upon completion of the survey, you will be asked to provide an email address so the Amazon.com gift code can be sent to you.

We validate all Amazon.com gift codes before distributing them. If you encounter difficulty redeeming your code, you must resolve the problem with Amazon.com's customer assistance. Contact information for Amazon.com gift code support is included with the code you will receive by email. Amazon.com is not a sponsor, affiliate, or endorser of this study in any way.

*If you use a service such as an "anonymous web proxy" to change or conceal your true IP address (as defined above), or use any other method that alters information about your Internet connection, you will not receive an Amazon.com gift code even if you complete the survey, because you do not meet the eligibility criteria for the study as described above.*

**PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH IS VOLUNTARY.**

You have the right to decline to be in this study, or to withdraw from it at any point.

---

**12. I have read and understand this consent form. \***

- I wish to participate in this study.
  - I do not wish to participate in this study
-

**13. May we contact you for a follow-up interview by telephone? If you complete this survey and are eligible for the telephone interview, you will be emailed an additional \$50 Amazon.com gift code after completing the one-hour telephone interview. \***

- I wish to be contacted in the event I am eligible for a follow-up interview.
- I do not wish to be contacted for further interviews, but am willing to take this survey.

---

Next Page

20%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**14. In what year were you born? \***

19

Next Page

21%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

For the next few questions the term "sex" refers to any of the following activities, with or without ejaculation, whether or not a condom or other protection was used, and no matter how brief its duration.

Vaginal sex: contact between penis and vagina

Oral sex: mouth or tongue on someone's vagina, penis, or anus

Anal sex: contact between penis and anus

---

**15. Have you ever (in your life time) had vaginal, oral, or anal sex with a woman? \***

- Yes
- No, I have never had vaginal, oral, or anal sex with a woman

---

Next Page

23%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**16. When did you last have vaginal, oral, or anal sex with a woman? \***

- During the last month
- 1 - 5 months ago
- 6 - 12 months ago
- 1 - 2 years ago
- 2 - 5 years ago
- 5 - 35 years ago
- More than 35 years ago (before 1977)
- Don't know or don't remember

Next Page

25%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.





**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**17. How many women have you had vaginal, oral, or anal sex with in the last 5 years?**

- I have not had vaginal, oral, or anal sex with a woman in the last 5 years
- 1
- 2 - 5
- 6 - 10
- More than 10
- Don't know or don't remember how many

Next Page

27%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**18. Have you ever (in your life time) had oral or anal sex with another man? \***

- Yes
- No, I have never had oral or anal sex with a man

Next Page

29%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**19. When did you last have oral or anal sex with another man? \***

- During the last month
- 1 - 5 months ago
- 6 - 12 months ago
- 1 - 2 years ago
- 2 - 5 years ago
- 5 - 35 years ago
- More than 35 years ago (before 1977)
- Don't know or don't remember

Next Page

31%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**20. How many men have you had oral or anal sex with in the last 5 years?**

- I have not had oral or anal sex with another man in the last 5 years.
- 1
- 2 - 5
- 6 - 10
- More than 10
- Don't know or don't remember how many

Next Page

33%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**21. How many men have you had oral or anal sex with in the last year?**

- I have not had oral or anal sex with another man in the last year.
- 1
- 2 - 5
- 6 - 10
- More than 10
- Don't know or don't remember how many

Next Page

35%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**22. Are you currently married to or in a long-term relationship with a woman?**

- Yes
- No

Next Page

36%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



23. During the time you have been in this relationship, have you had oral or anal sex with another man?

- Yes
- No

Next Page

38%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**24. When was the last time that happened?**

- During the last month
- 1 - 5 months ago
- 6 - 12 months ago
- More than 12 months ago
- Don't know or don't remember

Next Page

40%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.





**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**25. Are you currently married to or in a long-term relationship with a man?**

- Yes
- No

Next Page

42%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**26. During the time you have been in this relationship, have you had oral or anal sex with another man other than the man you are married to or in a long-term relationship with?**

- Yes
- No

Next Page

44%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**27. When was the last time that happened?**

- During the last month
- 1 - 5 months ago
- 6 - 12 months ago
- More than 12 months ago
- Don't know or don't remember

Next Page

45%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**28. How would you describe your sexual orientation?**

- Gay/homosexual/queer
- Bisexual
- Heterosexual/straight
- Don't Know
- Other

Next Page

47%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

The remaining questions in this survey concern voluntary blood donation. By this we mean voluntarily giving blood without being paid. Paid plasma donation does not count.

**29. Have you ever donated blood?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know or don't remember

Next Page

49%

[Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.](#)



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**30. How many times have you donated blood since 1977?**

- None
- Once
- 2 - 5 times
- 6 - 10 times
- More than 10 times
- Don't know

Next Page

52%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**31. Of the times you have donated blood since 1977, how many were after the first time you had oral or anal sex with another man?**

- None
- Once
- 2 - 5 times
- 6 - 10 times
- More than 10 times
- Don't know

Next Page

54%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**32. Have you donated blood at any time in the last 12 months?**

- Yes
- No

Next Page

56%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.





**33. Have you ever donated blood for any of the following reasons?**

	Yes	No
I wanted to donate blood to help someone in need	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In response to a TV or radio campaign, or a phone call or letter from the blood bank	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I was encouraged or pressured by family, friends, coworkers, or by someone at a blood drive	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I wanted to get my blood tested	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I wanted to get the incentives for donating that the blood bank was offering	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Next Page

57%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**34. Did any of the following factors influence your decision to come to the blood center?**

	Yes	No
Blood center testing is confidential	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Blood center testing is more accurate than at other test sites	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Blood center testing is free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I think that the tests would identify any problem with my blood	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**35. What other factors influenced your decision to donate blood? (Please Describe)**

Next Page

63%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**36. As far as you are aware, which of the following groups of people are allowed or NOT allowed to give blood under current policies?**

	Allowed	Not Allowed	Don't know
Anyone who has received a blood transfusion in the past year	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Anyone who has ever received money, drugs, or other payment for sex	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Men who have ever had oral or anal sex with another man	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Anyone who has had an accidental needlestick in the past year	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Anyone who has diabetes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Anyone who has ever injected themselves with drugs not prescribed by a doctor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Anyone who weighs less than 110 lbs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Anyone who is more than 100 lbs. overweight	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Next Page

64%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**37. The tests that blood centers use are no better at correctly identifying who has HIV as the tests used at other testing locations.**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

66%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**38. The tests that blood centers use can detect HIV infection earlier (sooner after infection occurs) than the tests used at other testing locations.**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

68%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**39. Using blood centers as a way to be tested for HIV is a misuse of blood donation.**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

69%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

Currently, men who have had sex with another man since 1977 are excluded from blood donation. The policy was introduced because of the increased risk of HIV among men who have sex with men. Other people who also are not allowed to donate blood include people who have had sex in exchange for money or drugs or other payment, people who have injected drugs, and people who weigh less than 110 lbs.

**40. Were you aware that any man who has had oral or anal sex with another man, even once, since 1977 is not eligible to donate?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know or don't remember

Next Page

71%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**41. If U.S. researchers conclude that there is very low risk of transmitting HIV from men who have not had sex with a man in the past 5 years, do you think this policy should be amended so that a man who last had oral or anal sex with another man more than five years ago should be allowed to become a blood donor?**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

73%





**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**42. If U.S. researchers conclude that there is very low risk of transmitting HIV from men who have not had sex with a man in the past year, do you think this policy should be amended so that a man who last had oral or anal sex with another man more than one year ago should be allowed to become a blood donor?**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

75%



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**43. Do you think this policy should be amended so that a man who has had sex with another man should be allowed to become a blood donor regardless of when the sexual contact occurred?**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

76%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**44. If U.S. researchers conclude that there is very low risk of transmitting HIV from men who are truly monogamous over the last year, do you think this policy should be amended so that a man who has had sex with only one other man in the last year and is in a truly monogamous relationship should be allowed to become a blood donor?**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

78%



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**45. Do you think there are men who have, or have had, oral or anal sex with other men who donate blood despite the current policy that does not allow it?**

- No, this never happens
- Yes, but it rarely happens
- Yes, it happens sometimes
- Yes, it is fairly common
- Yes, it is very common
- Don't know

Next Page

80%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**46. Please tell us why you think men who have had oral or anal sex with other men give blood.**

Next Page

81%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**47. Would you give blood if the policy allowed it?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know or don't have an opinion

Next Page

83%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**48. Would you follow a policy placing a temporary ban on blood donations if you had sexual contact with another man in a one-year period before donating blood?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know or don't have an opinion

Next Page

85%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements.

**49. Because blood donations are screened, I believe it's safe for me to give blood and I would do so regardless of the policy.**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

86%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.





**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**50. If the policy were changed to a defined time period of ineligibility of at least 1-year for men who have had sex with men, I'd be more likely to give blood because the policy that men who have sex with men can never give blood has put me off in the past.**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

88%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**51. If the policy were changed to a defined time period of ineligibility of at least 1-year for men who have had sex with men it would make no difference to whether I give blood.**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

90%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**52. The policies about who can give blood are clear and easy to understand.**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

92%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**53. The current policy that excludes men who have had sex with another man since 1977 should not be changed.**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

93%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**54. The blood bank needs to provide more information and explanation about who can and can't give blood.**

- Agree Strongly
- Agree Moderately
- Agree Slightly
- Disagree Slightly
- Disagree Moderately
- Disagree Strongly
- Don't Know

Next Page

95%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**55. What other thoughts on this subject would you like to share?**

Next Page

97%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

**56. Please enter your email address. We will send you a \$10 Amazon.com gift code to this address.**

Submit completed survey.

98%

Click here to save your progress  
and return later to complete survey.



**Blood DROPS**  
donation rules opinions study

Thank you for participating in our research by completing this survey.

**Please allow up to 30 days for your \$10 Amazon.com electronic gift code to arrive by email. We will do our best to deliver your gift code sooner than this if at all possible.**

We will not share your email address with anyone.

If you have any questions about the study, you may contact us at [blood@ucsf.edu](mailto:blood@ucsf.edu)

100%