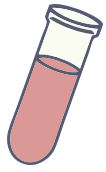


So, you're a donor, now what?



Blood testing FAQS



Why do we require donors to get a blood test?

Each donor to the milk bank must have negative blood tests for HIV-1, HIV-2, HTLV1+2, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and syphilis. There is no charge to the donor for the tests; the fee is covered by MMBA. All test results are confidential. If any of these tests are positive, you will be notified and the health care provider of your choice will be sent the test results.

What is AIDS?

AIDS, or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, is a condition caused by HIV (the AIDS virus) in which the body's normal defense mechanisms against certain infectious diseases are severely reduced. Although some people may be infected by HIV and have mild or no symptoms, anyone infected by the virus may infect others through blood and body fluids.

What does HIV/AIDS have to do with donating milk?

HIV can be found in the milk of infected people. If you are in any of the high-risk groups listed below, you are not eligible to donate milk. If you question your eligibility, call us.

Who is at risk?

It is known that certain groups are at high risk of contracting HIV as well as passing it to others. These groups include:

- Those with a positive blood test for HIV
- Present or past users of illegal, injected drugs
- Individuals who have received a tattoo, piercing, permanent makeup, acupuncture, or electrolysis from unregulated sites
- Individuals who have been exposed to contaminated needles
- Individuals who engage in non-monogamous sex
- Sexual partners of individuals in any of the above categories