Countries of Risk for variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (vCJD)

These lists were prepared from the FDA Guidance for Industry “Revised Preventive Measures to Reduce the Possible Risk of Transmission of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease and variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease by Blood and Blood Products,” updated January 2016.

The FDA Guidance regarding volunteer blood donor eligibility is based on travel to countries where cases of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), also known as Mad Cow Disease, have been identified. The basis for this rule is the theoretical risk of transmission of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (vCJD) by blood transfusion. vCJD is a rare degenerative brain disease that may be associated with the consumption of BSE-contaminated beef products.

If you have traveled to, lived in, or received a blood transfusion in the following countries since 1980, please notify Blood Center staff to determine your eligibility as a volunteer blood donor.

**vCJD Countries of Risk – Europe**

Albania  
Austria  
Belgium**  
Bosnia-Herzegovina  
Bulgaria  
Corsica*  
Croatia  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Finland  
France*  
French Guiana*  
Germany**  
Greece** including Chios, Corfu, Crete**, Kos Island, Mykonos, Paros, Rhodes, Samos, Santorini, & Skiathos  
Guadeloupe*  
Hungary  
Ireland (Republic of)  
Italy** including Capri, Elba, Sardinia, & Sicily**  
Kosovo  
Liechtenstein  
Luxembourg  
Macedonia (Republic of)  
Martinique*  
Mayotte*  
Montenegro  
Netherlands** including Holland**  
Norway  
Poland  
Portugal** including Azores**  
Réunion*  
Romania  
Serbia  
Slovak Republic  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Spain** including Balearic Islands, Canary Islands, Ceuta, Ibiza, Isla de Alborán, Islas Chafarinas, Mallorca, Mellila, Minorca, Peñón de Alhucemas, Peñón de Vélez de la Gomera, & Spanish North African Territories  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Turkey** (Military Base Only)  
Yugoslavia (Republic of)  

**vCJD Countries of Risk – UK**

Britain**  
British Isles  
Channel Islands, including Alderny, Guernsey, Herm, Jersey, & Sark  
England**  
Falkland Islands, including Islas Malvinas  
Gibraltar  
Great Britain**  
Hebrides Islands  
Isle of Man  
Northern Ireland  
Orkney Islands  
Scotland  
Shetland Islands  
United Kingdom**  
Wales  

*Countries in France  
**US Military Bases in Northern Europe (risk from 01/01/1980 through 12/31/1990)  
**US Military Bases in Southern Europe (risk from 01/01/1980 through 12/31/1996)