

Question: 26., 26a., 26b.

14 March 2016

Donor Eligibility: International travel or living in certain countries can pose possibilities for exposure to a variety of diseases. Persons are at an increased risk for vCJD who spent three months or more cumulatively in the United Kingdom (U.K.) from the beginning of 1980 through the end of 1996. The U.K.** includes all of the following areas: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands, Gibraltar, and the Falkland Islands. Persons are also at increased risk for vCJD who spent 5 years or more cumulatively in Europe*** from 1980 until the present (note this criterion includes time spent in the U.K. from 1980 through 1996). European countries to be used for risk areas include: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and Yugoslavia. Risk associated with endemic diseases (e.g., Zika Virus (ZIKV), Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), malaria, Chagas disease, Leishmaniasis, dengue, chikungunya, etc.) in certain countries or areas may need to be considered when applicable. For **current EVD guidance** regarding Ebola-affected countries, access the CDC website [Ebola Outbreak in West Africa - Outbreak Distribution Map](#). For **current ZIKV guidance** regarding areas where vector-borne (i.e., mosquito-acquired) transmission of ZIKV has occurred, access the CDC website [Active ZIKV transmission areas/maps](#) or [Zika Travel Notices](#). Local policy and/or international requirements can be stricter. Establishing specifically “why” travel occurred could also be useful.

