# HHS Seeks Comments on Alternatives to Gay Blood Ban

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The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is reconsidering its rules forbidding men who have sex with men (MSM) from donating blood, The Hill reports. Currently, any man who has had sex with another man since 1977 is barred from blood donation indefinitely. The risks of transmitting HIV and other viruses in this manner have dropped considerably since the policy was implemented. As a result of this increased accuracy of testing procedures, less than one in a million units of blood has HIV. HHS has asked the public for comments on a potential pilot program to re-evaluate the ban. Comments may be submitted online until June 11.

To read the Hill article, click here.

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http://beta.docker.realhealthmag.com/article/Blood-Ban-Reevaluated-22090-8709