



## iParenting Family News

### Donating Proves Life Saving for Some Egg and Blood Donors

Across the country more and more individuals are taking steps to help others in need, by donating blood or eggs to either help save lives, or to help infertile couples build their families. However, this same process of donating is also bringing to the forefront a shocking phenomenon causing much concern among health care professionals – the discovery of potentially life-threatening conditions, according to The Center for Egg Options Illinois (CEO) ([www.egg411.com](http://www.egg411.com)).

Young women are not attending their annual exams, and through the egg donation process are being found to have HPV, Hepatitis, thyroid problems, Chlamydia, an array of asymptomatic health conditions – some donors even learn of their own infertility. Similarly, through the process of blood donation, preliminary blood tests can bring to light critical health problems such as HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and Syphilis. Blood testing can also unveil the West Nile Virus, anemia, cholesterol, diabetes, various infections, kidney function, calcium levels, liver function, abnormalities in the body and more.

#### Other Relevant Information:

- Even with the increased use of a Pap Smear, between 60 to 80 percent of American women that are newly diagnosed with complication have not had a pap smear within the last five years.
- A survey conducted on behalf of the Vagisil Women's Health Center (VWHC) discovered that 17 percent of respondents are not visiting their doctors annually and 28 percent do not have pap tests each year.
- There has been an 80 percent increase in the number of babies born through donor eggs since 2000.
- 12.6 million units of blood are donated in the United States each year by eight million blood donors. These units are transfused to about four million patients per year.
- Only 37 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to donate blood – less than 10 percent do annually.
- The average age of a blood donor is 30 to 50.