

Blood Donation

Facts and FAQs for new and current donors

What's so important about donating blood?

A continuous supply of blood is essential to meet the needs of patients in our hospitals, and a steady stream of donors is needed to meet that need. Blood and its components cannot be artificially created in a lab, and there is no replacement. Blood is only available through the generosity of volunteer donors. It is estimated that 95% of the population will use blood or a blood component by the age of 75- unfortunately, less than 5% of the eligible population actually donates.



Who needs blood transfusions?

A wide variety of patients receive blood transfusions. The various components of donated blood are used to treat different conditions. For example, red blood cells are transfused to patients who have lost blood due to trauma or surgery, and to treat anemia (including sickle cell anemia). Burn victims can use plasma transfusions to treat them for shock, and cancer patients often need platelet transfusions to replace the healthy cells that are destroyed during chemotherapy and radiation.

In The Blood Center's laboratory, whole blood is separated into its components, so your donation can save up to three lives!

What are the major blood types?

Your blood type is determined by the antigens it contains. There are two major types of blood antigens: ABO and Rh, which combine to create blood types: O+, O-, A+, A-, B+, B-, AB+ & AB-

Who can receive my blood?

A patient can receive blood that has the same ABO antigens as theirs, plus O. Rh+ types can receive Rh+ or Rh-, while Rh- can only receive Rh- blood.

Did you know? Many people report that they learned their blood type for the first time after donating blood!

		DONOR							
		A+	B+	AB+	O+	A-	B-	AB-	O-
RECIPIENT	A+	🩸			🩸	🩸			🩸
	B+		🩸		🩸		🩸		🩸
	AB+	🩸	🩸	🩸	🩸	🩸	🩸	🩸	🩸
	O+				🩸				🩸
	A-					🩸			🩸
	B-						🩸		🩸
	AB-					🩸	🩸	🩸	🩸
	O-								🩸

You're someone's type!

TheBloodCenter.org



(800) 86-BLOOD