

14 AUGUST 2009 MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SRC and Bloodbank@HSA Thank Rhesus Negative Blood Donors

The Singapore Red Cross (SRC) and the Bloodbank@HSA would like to thank all blood donors who have responded to our recent call for Rhesus negative blood.

2 As a result of the positive response from these donors who have Anegative and O-negative blood types, we are able to replenish our national stockpile for these rare blood types back to a comfortable level.

3 Prior to the targeted appeal, there had been high usage of these blood types by several victims of the recent Jakarta blasts who were flown to Singapore for treatment. This had resulted in significant depletion of the national stockpiles. To date, nearly 100 units of both A-negative and O-negative blood have been collected.

4 Regular blood donation is crucial, especially among Rhesus negative blood donors whose numbers make up less than one per cent of the Singaporean population. Hence, it takes much longer to build up Rhesus negative blood stocks as compared to Rhesus positive blood.

5 The SRC has set up a registry for Rhesus negative blood type donors. First-time Rhesus negative blood donors will have their blood type and contact details registered once they have donated blood. For more information, please call SRC at 62200183.

6 On behalf of the patients who needed the lifesaving blood, we once again express our gratitude to these generous donors and we cheer them on to keep giving. We also thank the media for their support in publicising our appeal so that we were able to reach out to a wider audience.

SINGAPORE RED CROSS & HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY 14 AUGUST 2009