



MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SINGAPORE RED CROSS AND HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
CALL FOR 'O' BLOOD DONATIONS**

Singapore, 28 September 2018 – The Singapore Red Cross (SRC) and the Health Sciences Authority (HSA) are calling on 'O' blood donors to come forward to donate blood over the next two weeks. An estimated 500 donors are required to bring up the O blood stock to a healthy level. Donors are encouraged to visit Bloodbank@HSA, Bloodbank@Dhoby Ghaut, Bloodbank@Woodlands and Bloodbank@Westgate Tower as soon as they can.

2 Being a universal blood group, 'O' blood is required for all patients during emergency situations when their blood groups are not known. Moreover, nearly half of the patients are 'O' blood type who can only receive group 'O' blood.

3 As of today, the national blood stock level for 'O' blood is about half of the required stockpile. SRC and HSA aim to have at least six days' supply to meet daily transfusion needs and bleeding emergencies in Singapore.

Blood Donors Urged to Come Forward

4 All healthy individuals with 'O' blood type between 16 and 60 years, weighing at least 45 kg, are urged to come forward to help. Donors who have not made a donation in the past 12 weeks are also encouraged to donate.

5 Donors need to bring their NRIC [for Singaporeans], or passport [for non-Singaporeans]. For donors aged 16 or 17 years old, a signed parental consent form is required. The form can be found here: www.hsa.gov.sg/parent_consent

6 Before a donation, donors are advised to eat a light meal and drink plenty of fluids. They should also ensure that they have adequate rest the night before the donation and on the actual day itself.

7 Those who have not donated blood before in Singapore can visit www.hsa.gov.sg/donor_criteria or call 6220 0183 for more information or to make an appointment for blood donation.

Blood Bank Locations	Opening Hours
Bloodbank@HSA	Tues – Thurs 9am – 6.30pm

	Fri	9am – 8pm
	Sat & Sun	9am – 4.30pm
	Mon & Public Holidays	Closed
Bloodbank@Dhoby Ghaut	Mon – Wed	12pm – 8pm
	Fri	12pm – 8pm
	Sat & Sun	10am – 5pm
	Thurs & Public Holidays	Closed
Bloodbank@Woodlands	Mon	12pm – 8pm
	Wed – Fri	12pm – 8pm
	Sat & Sun	10am – 5pm
	Tues & Public Holidays	Closed
Bloodbank@Westgate Tower	Mon – Fri	12pm – 8pm
	Sat & Sun	10am – 5pm
	Wed & Public Holidays	Closed

8 Upcoming community blood drives can be found here: www.redcross.sg/donateblood

9 Community and corporate groups who wish to organise group donations at our blood banks can call the Singapore Red Cross at 6220 0183 for more details.

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About the Singapore Red Cross Blood Donor Recruitment Programme

The Singapore Red Cross (SRC) was appointed the National Blood Donor Recruiter in April 2001. Together with our partner-in-service, the Blood Services Group of the Health Sciences Authority, we aim to collect sufficient safe blood for the transfusion needs of all our hospitals.

The SRC focuses on three main functions in the National Blood Programme:

- Recruitment, Retention and Recognition of blood donors
- Promotion and Education to increase public awareness on the importance of blood donation
- Organisation of mobile blood donation drives in the community

About HSA's Blood Services Group

The HSA's Blood Services Group, as the national blood service, secures the nation's blood supply by ensuring a safe and adequate blood supply. It is responsible for collecting, processing, testing and distributing blood and blood products to all hospitals in Singapore. It also provides specialist transfusion medicine services in immunohaematology and tissue typing and is actively engaged in the cutting-edge therapeutic research area of cell therapy.