

What happens to your blood after donation?

Blood collected from a donor has to go through processing and a series of laboratory tests before it can be given to patients. The whole process takes about 24 hours.



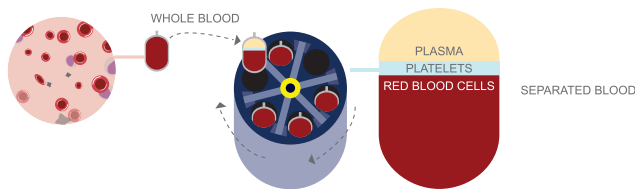
From
Donor

1. Collection

- Blood is collected from a donor.
- It takes about **5-10 minutes** and **350-450ml** of blood is taken each time.
- Tubes of blood specimen are also taken for testing.

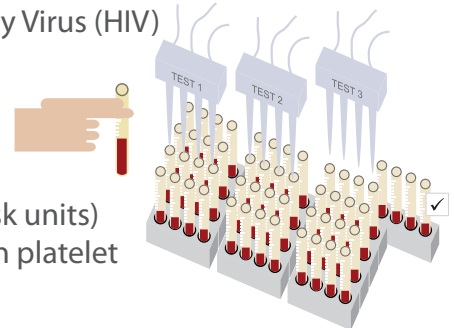
2. Blood Processing and Testing

- Each pack of blood is separated into three components: **red cells, platelets and plasma.**
- Each component can be used to treat different conditions. This is why one pack of blood is able to save up to **three lives.**



- The blood specimens will be tested for:

- o Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
- o Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)
- o Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)
- o Hepatitis E Virus (HEV)
- o Syphilis
- o Malaria (for selected at-risk units)
- o Bacterial contamination in platelet concentrates



- Blood group testing and antibody screen are also carried out on every unit of blood collected.

3. Labelling

- Once the processing and testing are completed, the blood products are labelled with **blood group** and **expiry date** and it is now ready for use.



4. Storage

- Blood products are stored under controlled conditions to ensure that they are in optimal state when transfused.

Blood Product	Storage Temperature	Storage Duration
Red blood cells	1 to 6°C	Up to 42 days
Platelets	20 to 24°C	Up to 7 days
Fresh Frozen Plasma	Minus 35°C	Up to 1 year

To
Patient

5. Distribution

- Hospitals will collect the blood products from HSA.
- The amount given to each hospital depends on their usage level.



6. Transfusion

- The type and amount of blood product to be transfused is decided by the attending doctor.
- It typically takes about **two to three hours** to transfuse one unit of red cells and about **30 minutes** to transfuse one unit of platelets or plasma to patients.

You can help keep our blood safe!

Call our 24-hour toll-free line **1800 226 3320** immediately if:

- You feel that your blood should not be given to any patient.
- You develop infective symptoms (such as fever, rash, generalised body ache, conjunctivitis, red eyes, sore throat, and persistent cough) in the first two weeks following a blood donation.

Your call will be kept strictly confidential and no questions will be asked.

