



COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK

2646 Peach Street, Erie, PA 16508
Phone: 814-456-4206
1-(877) 842-0631 (toll free)
Fax: 814-452-3966

Directed Donation

Blood Bank and Transfusion Services



Our Donors Save Lives!

www.fourhearts.org

Rev. 4.15

FAST FACTS

What is a directed donation?

When someone donates blood or a blood component such as plasma for use by a specific patient, it is called a directed donation.

Your hospital partners with Community Blood Bank to provide services for directed blood donation for a specific patient for an upcoming transfusion and/or surgery.

All donors, whether or not they are donating for someone they know, are carefully screened before they are allowed to donate blood. After the donation, laboratory tests are done on each pint of blood to be sure the patient receives blood that is as safe as possible.

Directed donations are only an option when there is enough time to do the necessary laboratory tests. The blood type of the donor and the patient must match.

COMPATIBILITY CHART		
If patient blood type is:	To donate Red Cells, the donor blood type must be:	To donate Plasma, the donor blood type must be:
O+	O+, O-	O, A, B OR AB
O-	O-	O, A, B OR AB
A+	A+, A-, O+, O-	A OR AB
A-	A-, O-	A OR AB
B+	B+, B-, O+, O-	B OR AB
B-	B-, O-	B OR AB
AB+	AB+, AB-, A+, A-, B+, B-, O+, O-	AB
AB-	AB-, A-, B-, O-	AB

How safe is the blood supply?

The blood supply is safer today than it has ever been. The banked blood from community volunteers is as safe as directed donation blood. Blood is collected with sterile equipment that is used only once and then thrown away.

Community Blood Bank takes many steps to be sure that all donated blood is safe. A collection staff member will take a confidential health history, asking each donor about risk behaviors. This helps to identify safe and unsafe donors.

Who can be a directed donor?

A directed donor must meet the same requirements as any volunteer blood donor. Generally, healthy donors who are at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 lbs may donate. In Pennsylvania and NY, 16-year-old donors may donate with a permission form signed by a parent or legal guardian.

At the time of donation, we will take a short medical history and measure blood pressure, pulse, temperature and hematocrit.

How many directed donors will a patient need?

The number of directed donors needed depends on the amount of blood that is ordered by the physician.

Community Blood Bank cannot guarantee that blood collected from every donor you identify will be right for you.

I want to select my own blood donors for my child or myself.

What do I do next?

- ① Make sure there is enough time for your directed donations. CBB needs AT LEAST five working days between the date of donation and your blood transfusion to prepare and deliver your directed blood.
- ② Discuss the directed donation option with your doctor. Your doctor will need to complete and sign a directed donation order form and send it to Community Blood Bank. You will also need to sign the informed consent portion of the order form.
- ③ Information you will need to know before calling Community Blood Bank:
 - How many pints of blood are being ordered?
 - List of potential donors (names, date of birth, blood type and if they are a blood relative).
 Call CBB's Hospital Services Coordinator.
- ④ Have the donor make an appointment by calling Community Blood Bank at: (814) 456-4206 or toll free at 1-(877) 842-0631. Government issued photo ID is required for donation.

What happens to the blood after it has been donated?

Every pint of blood collected will be tested for HIV, hepatitis, syphilis and other viruses. All directed donor blood that has passed testing will be sent to your hospital blood bank. The hospital blood bank will decide which directed donor pints are right for you. If you need more blood, it will provide it from the community blood supply. You may or may not need the directed donor blood.

CBB follows strict rules on donor privacy. Any positive test results will be sent to the donor within eight weeks of testing. No information will be available to you about test results or the number of directed donor pints available for a specific patient.

What will a directed donation cost?

If the blood is being shipped out of town, transportation fees will apply and must be paid prior to blood shipment.

Where can I get more information?

If you have questions, please call CBB at (814) 456-4206 or toll free at 1-(877) 842-0631 and ask for the Hospital Services Coordinator.

Additional information is also available on the CBB website: www.fourhearts.org. The Direct Donation order form may also be found on the website.

Please Note:
Directed donations are NOT performed on an emergency or STAT basis.