



# BLOOD FACTS

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY  
REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER

- An adult has approximately **10-12 pints** of blood.
- About **1 in 7** patients require a blood transfusion.
- More than **4.5 million** people need blood transfusions each year.
- All donated blood is tested for various viruses and diseases before being transfused. *Including: Hepatitis B & C, HIV, HCV, HTLV, Syphilis, West Nile virus and Chagas' disease.*
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates the blood supply and mandates that blood donors not be paid or receive any item "readily convertible to cash" in return for their donations.

**38%** of the U.S. population is eligible to give blood, but **less than 10%** actually donate.

A person with **AB+** blood is a **universal recipient**, and a person with **O-** blood is a **universal donor**.

Only voluntary donations can be transfused.

## RED CELLS

Carry oxygen and are used in surgeries to treat anemia. They can be stored under refrigeration for up to 42 days.

## PLATELETS

Used to control bleeding and frequently used with patients in treatment for cancer. Platelets are kept at room temperature and may be used for up to five days.

## PLASMA

Used to control bleeding due to low levels of some clotting factors, can be kept in a frozen state for up to one year.

## CRYOPRECIPITATE

Helps blood to clot, especially for patients who have certain types of bleeding disorders and is made from frozen plasma.

*(White blood cells are not transfused and are filtered out through a process called leukoreduction.)*

## RED BLOOD CELL COMPATIBILITY

		Patient Can Receive							
		O-	O+	B-	B+	A-	A+	AB-	AB+
Patient Blood Type	AB+	3%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	AB-	1%	●	⊕	●	⊕	●	⊕	●
	A+	31%	●	●			●	●	
	A-	6%	●	⊕			●	⊕	
	B+	9%	●	●	●	●			
	B-	2%	●	⊕	●	⊕			
	O+	39%	●	●					
	O-	9%	●	⊕					
●	Routine Transfusion Compatibility								
⊕	Although compatible, use only in emergencies								