

COVID-19 & BLOOD DONOR SAFETY



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As the U.S. works to contain the spread of coronavirus (COVID 19), the need for blood continues. More than ever, your donation to our military community is mission critical. Armed Services Blood Program donor centers nationwide are taking extra steps to insure that donating blood continues to be safe.

DID YOU KNOW?

- EACH day the Military Health System needs hundreds of units of blood.
- Blood and blood products are used for military patients of all ages for many reasons, from emergency/trauma surgeries to treatments of disease and other conditions.
- Each blood product has an expiration date. Blood products continually need replenishing.

FACTS:

- There is no known or reported risk to a donor at this time of COVID-19 transmission during the donation process.
- Blood products are FDA-regulated with extensive testing and requirements in place.
- Blood donor centers and transfusion services go through rigorous accreditation processes and maintain stringent industry standards.

Our goal of blood safety has always been our number one priority and focus.



If healthy, able, and eligible, donate today to help us stand ready.

NEW MEASURES TAKEN*



Staff members will wear appropriate personal protective equipment and be screened for general health (temperature check) prior to departing for a blood drive.



Group numbers will be kept low at <10, with social distancing practiced to the greatest extent possible.



A donor's temperature will be taken before they enter the collection area and after they have registered (per standard operating procedure).



There will be increased placement of cleaning products for use after leaving each station, and all reusable items used will be cleaned.



Donation appointments will be emphasized, and spaced throughout the day.

FOLLOW-UP MEASURES



All donors will be provided with a CDC factsheet about COVID-19, along with standard donor education material.



All donors will be given follow-up contact information and reminded to contact the BDC if they develop any illness or symptoms in the proceeding 14 days.



Where Do I Go to Donate?

Find a blood drive near you at militarydonor.com

Donated with the ASBP before? Reach out to your local center directly to make an appointment or to your ASBP blood drive coordinator or sponsor to see when the next blood drive might be scheduled.



militaryblood.dod.mil

* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/blood-and-plasma-collection.html>