

+ Bloedbank



Why become a
blood donor?



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Each year an average of 2500 people in Aruba need a blood transfusion. Blood transfusions (or transfusion of blood components) are necessary among other for:

- accident victims that have lost a big amount of blood;
- dialysis patients;
- deliveries with lots of hemorrhaging due to complications;
- premature babies;
- Patients treated for e.g. leukemia or cancer;
- Operations with a lot of hemorrhage.

Blood donations help thousands of people who are now living a healthy and productive life. This is thanks to people like YOU who have donated blood and have made this possible when there was a need.

Criteria's to donate blood

- A donor must be 18 years or older and becomes a donor on a voluntary basis.
The screening for potential/aspirant donors occurs in 3 phases: Phase 1
- the potential donor applies at the Blood Bank with a valid I.D. (I.D. card, driver's license or passport) and a valid AZV card;
- the potential donor needs to complete a list of questions;
- blood will be extracted.

Phase 2

- within 3 weeks the potential donor will be invited for an appointment for a screening with a doctor.

Phase 3

- 2 months after the screening the potential donor will be called by the Blood Bank to donate blood for the first time.

Reasons why you cannot become a donor:

- if you have had a cerebro vascular `accident (CVA) or if you have heart problems;
- if you inject insulin to control your diabetes;
- if you have an irresponsible sex life;
- if presently you are using any drugs;

There is no risk to donate blood

By donating blood you cannot contract any contagious diseases. The needles used to extract blood are sterile and disposable. For this reason a donor can never be infected due to contamination with any kind of virus such as Hepatitis or AIDS.

Can I donate blood for myself?

The answer is "YES". People that will undergo a surgery during which the doctor thinks that there will be a lot of blood loss; can choose to donate blood for themselves. The doctor will prescribe iron tablets to increase the hemoglobin level of the patient. Once a week blood will be extracted, until up to 3 days before the operation. The blood bags will be stored for the operation. In case that all the bags of blood are not used they will be thrown away. This blood will not be given to other patient.

Some frequently asked questions

Does it hurt to donate blood?

- It can hurt a little, it's not the most pleasant sensation. With time you will get used to it.

Are there any side effects?

- Usually "NOT". Some people can feel a little weak after donating blood.
- Some people may experience a low blood pressure. Our personnel will assist you with this.

Can I get a contagious disease by donating blood?

- Absolutely "NOT". For each blood donation a sterile needle is used

Service hours:

8.15 a.m till 4 p.m.

All answers on questions and test results made by the Blood bank are confidential.

For more information you can contact:

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