

ALL ABOUT BLOOD

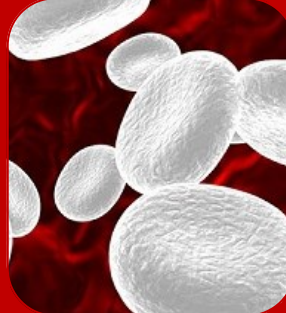
Whole blood can be kept for up to five weeks but most donations are used within three days.
One donation can save the lives of three people.

COMPONENTS



Red Blood Cells

Carry oxygen and are used for major surgeries, trauma, childbirth emergencies and support for patients during cancer treatment.



White Blood Cells

Rarely transfused; can be used as a temporary measure for severe infection.



Platelets

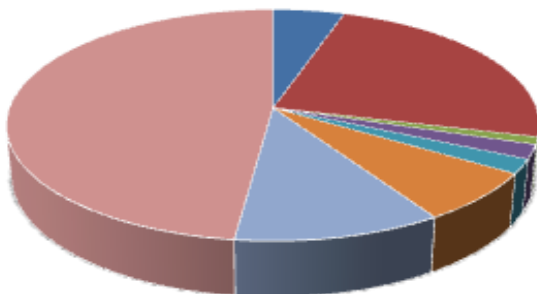
Needed for blood to clot, used during cancer treatment and for some patients undergoing cardiac surgery.



Plasma

Used for critically ill patients who have lost large volumes of blood, burns victims and for patients with blood clotting disorders.






Blood Groups in Northern Ireland



- A-
- A+
- AB-
- AB+
- B-
- B+
- O-
- O+

One blood donation is 470ml.
Your body makes up the fluid part of your blood donation within hours.
Your red cells are replaced within a few weeks.

How much blood might be required to save a life?

Hip replacement surgery		(as many as two units)
Leukaemia		(eight units and more)
Cardiovascular surgery		(five units and more)
Internal bleeding		(two to eight units)
Auto accident	 x5	(50 units and even several hundred)

GIVE BLOOD
Save Lives



Northern Ireland
Blood Transfusion Service

Text BLOOD to 60081
Visit www.nibts.org
Call 08085 534 666