

Blood Line

The Voluntary Blood Donation Journal

Promoting
Voluntary
Blood Donation

This issue of **Blood Line**
is dedicated to repeat regular
voluntary blood donors

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Dr. Meena D
Additional Professor
Transfusion Medicine
Medical College Hospital
TRIVANDRUM

The goal of any Transfusion Service is to provide blood components that are safe for transfusion and that pose minimal risk of transfusion transmissible infections. To achieve maximum safety, requires a multilayered risk reduction strategy involving safe blood donors, safe blood components and safe transfusion practices. Obtaining safe blood donors who have a low risk of carrying transfusion transmissible infection require effective donor selection and screening strategies. Safe transfusion practices are essential so that the correct blood is given to the correct patient and given only when it is truly needed.

As a first step to achieve this goal, the National Blood Transfusion Council was started in India in the year 2002 for the Blood Policy and Action plan which include rationalization of Blood Transfusion Service achieving 100 percent-age blood collection from voluntary non-remunerated blood donors and institution of quality systems in blood centers. Quality system must be com-

prehensive, from the recruitment and selection of blood donors to the transfusion of blood and blood products to the patient and should reflect the needs of the clinicians and patients served.

Pledge 25, a youth programme initiated in Zimbabwe which has significantly contributed to the safety of the national blood supply, is an innovative approach to the recruitment and retention of young voluntary non remunerated blood donors from low risk population. The success of the pledge 25 club has generated interest in many developing countries and the approach was promoted as part of the activities of the World Health Day 2000. At that time WHO worked together with International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Society of Blood Transfusion and International Federation of Blood Donor organizations to launch World Blood Donor Day on 14th June 2004. This was designed to raise awareness about the vital need for voluntary non remunerated blood donation from low risk population and to applaud the contribution made by blood donors.

The most important stakeholder for the Blood Transfusion Service is the Blood Donor. An effective and safe blood transfusion service requires a programme aimed at motivation, recruitment and retention of voluntary non remunerated regular blood donors, an effective donor screening and selection process and a donor deferral registry.

Donor recruitment is inducting suitable persons to donate blood. People have to be motivated to become blood do-

nors. The ability to motivate is a skill that that can be taught. Motivation programmes use various strategies and different media to educate and motivate potential donor groups. Surveys done world wide indicate that young people are easier to motivate and demonstration of blood donation by peers is a good motivation factor. Very often the reason why people do not donate blood is because they did not know that it was needed. "Nobody asked me" is a common refrain that has to be tackled with an effective awareness programme. Making the blood donation process as convenient and easy as possible by having mobile blood donation camps at the workplaces or Universities increase collection.

Blood Donor Retention

Regular repeat blood donors enhance blood safety. Studies show that blood obtained from regular non-remunerated voluntary blood donors show only very few positive results for infectious diseases than blood obtained from the first time and replacement blood donors. A safe and pleasant first time donation experience with good donor care promotes repeat donation. Appreciation and recognition shown in the form of small mementoes like certificates and badges are helpful. Being in touch with donors through messages or newsletter, continuous efforts to improve services, confidence and trust in Blood Transfusion Service, support for the donors own need for blood and getting donor feed back and complaints are also effective donor retention strategies.

Sometimes regular donors stop donating and are called lapsed donors. This may be because of medical reasons, dissatisfaction with Blood Transfusion Services due to poor donor care or not getting timely help when they need blood, inconvenient time or place to donate and so on. The reasons for the lapse should be rectified as soon as possible.

Voluntary non remunerated donors give blood with the purely altruistic motive of helping an unknown patient and not for payment or any favor. They respond readily to an appeal for blood donation and donate blood regularly. They give more reliable information during donor screening and self defer if there has been any behavior placing them at risk of contracting hepatitis, AIDS or other communicable diseases. Therefore the incidence of transfusion transmissible infections is very low in this donor group.

Paid donors give blood in return for payment or other favors. The world wide experience indicates a high incidence of transfusion associated infections among them. Paid donations have been banned in India since 1998. Replacement donors replace the blood issued by the blood centre to their relatives or friends, they may be less truthful when asked screening questions or less likely to self defer and thus compromise blood safety. Directed donors give blood prospectively to a specific named patient, This should be avoided among close relatives or the donation must be subjected to irradiation since donation from close relatives can lead to the rare, but invariably fatal ,transfusion associated graft versus host diseases. Autologous donors donate blood for their own use which ensures safety for them.

Ensuring safe blood is Government's highest priority. For generation of

blood through voluntary blood donation programme the Government of India has taken a number of steps like messages on voluntary blood donation broadcast through TV, Radio channels during prime time. NACO with the help of Central Health Education Bureau has developed IEC materials for one to one communication on voluntary blood donation programmes in the form of folders, posters, stickers etc.

Every year 1st of October is celebrated as National Voluntary Blood Donation Day. Special campaigns to educate the masses and special camps for blood collection are organized. There are a number of Non Governmental Organizations in the country which are primarily engaged in the task of generating blood from voluntary donors. Our aim should be 100 % voluntary blood donation for safe blood transfusion.

Mr C Balagopal, Managing Director of TERUMO PENPOL Limited releasing the first issue of book on "Informatics and Bioinformatics" written by Ms. Sini Benjamin, Zoology Lecturer of All Saints College on World AIDS Day

World Aids Day Observance- Inaugural Ceremony



Mr. C Balagopal, Managing Director
TERUMO PENPOL Limited
Delivering The Inaugural Address



Ms. Mabil P S, Principal
All Saints College
Delivering The Presidential Address



Ms. Mary Metilda
Club 25 Coordinator, All Saints College
Welcoming The Gathering



Ms. Sherin
Club 25 Member, All Saint's College
Delivering The Vote of Thanks



Mr. K.P Rajagopalan, General Secretary of KEBS sharing his experience about Blood Donation



Mr.K P Rajagopalan retired Lay Secretary from Govt Hospital is a regular Blood Donor who had donated blood 98 times and is a motivator. He spends his retired life by taking classes on Blood Donation for college Students, NGOs and Residential Associations.

Skit on Safe Blood Donation Organized By All Saint's College Students on World AIDS Day



Candle Light Rally Organized by All Saint's College Students on World AIDS Day



Dr.Amar Fettle, Faculty, Healthy Services, Government of Kerala ,talking to the students about “HIV/AIDS Care Counseling and Prevention”



Dr.Shaiji P S, Jr Resident, Transfusion Medicine Department, Medical College, Trivandrum asking questions during a Quiz Competition on Safe Blood Donation



Dr.Shaiji P S was the QUIZ Master for the QUIZ on Safe Blood Donation organized by TERUMO PENPOL Limited for College Students on World AIDS Day.

Thanks to BIG FM for Supporting Voluntary Blood Donation Activities



Ancy of BIG FM organized funny games for Students and distributed gifts to the Students on World AIDS Day.

World AIDS Day Observance



Terumo Penpol Limited observed World AIDS Day in association with All Saint's College on 1 December. Mr. C Balagopal, Managing Director of TERUMO PENPOL Limited inaugurated the function and Ms. Mabil P S, Princi-

pal of All Saints College presided over the function.

Mr. C Balagopal released the first issue of book on Informatics and Bioinformatics written by Ms. Siny G Benjamin, Zoology Lecturer of All Saints College and he had inaugurated the launch of red ribbon club at All Saint's College.

Dr.Amar Fettle, Faculty, Health Services made a presentation “HIV AIDS Care Counseling and Prevention”.

Mr. K P Rajagopalan, General Secretary (KEBS) made an awareness session on Blood and Blood Donation.

Dr.Shaiji P S and Dr Chitra Elizabeth Jr. Residents of MCH Transfusion Medicine Department organized a Quiz Competition for the Students of All Saint's College. A Skit on safe blood donation was organized by the Students. A Rally was also organized in and around the College by the Students.

BIG FM Radio was the official Radio Partner and they had given wide coverage about the event. Yentha.com was the online Media Partner and they had published the news in their website.

Voluntary Blood Donation camp at MES College, Marampally, Aluva



A blood grouping cum donation camp preceded by awareness class on Blood and Organ Donation, poster session and distribution of IEC materials were conducted successfully at Marampally. The well attended camp was formally inaugurated by Mrs. P.A Fathima (MES College) at a function presided over by Mrs.

Shemi (Program Officer, NSS Unit). Laminated blood group identity cards and donor cards (offering right to a unit of blood without replacement) and promotional materials like fancy key chains were given to donors and certificate of appreciation to the organizers.

Award

Hearty Congrats to Dr. N Vijayakumar, Medical Officer, Regional Blood Transfusion Center, Aluva

IMA National Award Committee has conferred “IMA Special Award To Eminent Medical Men For Distinguished Achievement of Highest Order” to Dr. N Vijayakumar. Dr Vijayakumar has received awards of honor from the Kerala State Aids Control Society for his contribution in the field of blood donor motivation and also for creating awareness regarding HIV/AIDS. He is a designated Transfusion Medicine Expert for KSACS & NACO and a State Resource Person for the Training of Blood Bank Technicians & Medical Officers. Dr.Vijaya Kumar is also in the Quality Assurance Committee of the State Blood Transfusion Council as well as in the Core Committee constituted by NACO to monitor the functioning of blood banks in the state. He has been selected for the prestigious A.N.Kashyap National Award of Indian Society of Blood Transfusion & Immunohaematology for most outstanding performance in voluntary blood donation field in India in November 2009.

HEALTH BENEFITS OF DONATING BLOOD

Dr.N.Vijayakumar, Medical Officer, Regional Blood Transfusion Centre, Aluva

1. Reduce the chance of heart diseases

It has been noted that increase in blood iron level increases the risk of heart disease. Iron is involved in the oxidation of cholesterol and this process is found to be detrimental for the arteries. Sullivan has long suspected that blood iron levels help explain why a man's risk of heart disease begins earlier than a woman's. Women lose blood — and lower their iron levels — each time they menstruate. Men, on the other hand, begin storing iron in body tissues starting in their twenties, which is just about the time their heart attack danger begins to climb. According to Victor Herbert, M.D., a Hematologist at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in New York City, there are normally about 1,000 milligrams of iron “stored” in the average adult man's body but only about 300 milligrams in a premenopausal woman's. Once women stop menstruating, however, their iron levels — and their heart disease risk — begin to climb, eventually matching that of men. Increased blood iron level favours this process of cholesterol oxidation and thus leads to heart disease. Regular blood donation helps especially males in losing iron on a regular basis. It helps in reducing the chance of heart attack to one third. In a study of 2,682 men in Finland reported in the September 1998 issue of the American Journal of Epidemiology. Men who do-

not donate blood at least once a year had an 88 percent lower risk of heart attacks than non-donors. Another study published in the August 1997 issue of Heart found that men who donated blood were less likely than non-donors to show signs of cardiovascular disease.

2. Enhance the production of new Red Blood Cells

As the blood is withdrawn from the donor's body there is decrease in blood cells. This stimulates production of erythropoietin, which in turn triggers bone marrow to produce more red cells, and this way blood gets refreshed. Therefore donating blood helps in stimulating generation of new blood cells.

3. Helps in fighting hemochromatosis

Hemochromatosis is a genetic disorder; also known as iron overload disorder wherein iron accumulates in the body tissue because of improper iron metabolism. This condition may lead to Cirrhosis of the liver, diabetes due to pancreatic islet cell failure, Cardiomyopathy, Arthritis (iron deposition in joints), Testicular failure. Though this problem is uncommon in Indians, people with little iron overload also can easily donate blood and reduce their iron content. Taking example from other countries, one in every 300-400 people in England suffers from this disorder and American Red Cross blood services accept such donors as safe

donor as it's a genetic disorder, it won't be harmful to the person receiving blood from such donors. However, blood from Polycythaemia patients is not cleared for transfusion to patients.

4. Burns calories

One can diet or remain fit by donating blood regularly. One pint of blood (450 ml) when donated burns 650 calories in donor's body.

5. Invigorated feeling in elderly people

Several studies have suggested that elderly people in good health have reported feeling invigorated or reenergized by giving blood on a regular basis. The upper age limit for blood donation in India is 60 years. However in developed countries there is no limit. The age limit that prevents regular blood donors from continuing to give blood beyond their 70th birthday has been scrapped in 2009 in United Kingdom.

6. Basic blood test is done

Apart from all these benefits a donor gets a mini blood test done before donating blood. This includes Hematocrit i.e. HB level test, Blood Pressure is measured, body weight is checked. After the blood is collected it is tested for 5 major diseases. Those are Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV, Syphilis and Malaria. The Medical Officer immediately informs donor personally if any of these tests are found to be positive.

To

Editor,
Blood Line
Sub: Letter to the Editor

FAIR REFRESHMENTS TO BLOOD DONORS

Dear Editor,

It was indeed shocking to know that hospitality extended to blood donors by hospital authorities is derogatory from the letter of Wing Commander D. Sendhil Kumar. They seldom give explanations to their bad deeds; but the least all of us expect is, regretting themselves, improve upon the refreshments.

BHEL, which was my employer of the past, used to give two boiled eggs and a tumbler full (remember Punjabi tumbler!) of milk to the donor. If he/she is our employee he/she gets rest for the rest of the day too.

Regards,

Malippuram Khalid,
Editor, IEI Update, News Monthly of Kochi Centre,
The Institution of Engineers (India),
St. Benedict Road, KOCHI – 682 018
E-mail: malippuram@gmail.com
Phone: 9447602644

Dear Madam,

I wish to introduce myself as a regular blood donor- for the last four and half decades. I happen to cross my century in the field of voluntary blood donation over a couple of decades ago. I am also the Liaison Officer of the IMA Blood Bank in Coimbatore. Your magazine “BLOOD LINE” is one of the best periodicals I come across in my lifetime. In particular your issue 2010/17 dedicated to repeat regular voluntary blood donors. May I request to your very interesting, informative periodical. I wish some of your goodness rub off on the youth of Tamilnadu.

Thanking you,
RTN.MPHE.PP. ARUN GOKULDAS
Coimbatore

An Appeal To Youngsters From Mr.K P Rajagopalan, General Secretary, All Kerala Blood Donor's Society(KEBS)

Dear Blood-friends,

We, would like to **inform** you that many of the patients & relatives of them are suffering a lot due to scarcity of Blood **“+ - A B AB O”** for treatment at **Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram**. Now-a-days many of them are wandering or running here& there for their need for blood. Many of the professional and paid donors are taking advantage of this situation. To keep away these unsocial animals and **to get SAFE BLOOD to the needy** we earnestly appeal you to make a joined movement to donate blood at RCC and to promote Altruistic Voluntary Blood Donation and **motivate your friends & relatives to become Regular Repeated Altruistic Voluntary Blood Donors**. This altruistic act of kindness will give some expectations to their lives to survive for further treatment.

All the Voluntary Blood Donors are advised to get a **good night's sleep** on the previous day of blood donation, **having a good breakfast or lunch**, and **drinking extra water and fluids (4 or 5 glasses) within 2 hours** of the blood donation will help the donor to ensure a successful blood donation. A well-hydrated body will keep away the donor from any dizziness, nausea, etc. Donors are also advised to avoid eating fatty foods, and to eat plenty of food rich in iron and **Vitamin C** in the days leading up to the donation. Wearing comfortable clothing with sleeves that can be raised above the elbow is also recommended.

Donating blood is simple, and takes about half an hour from the time you arrive until the time you leave. This half an hour, we say that could amount to a lifetime for someone who needs blood for ongoing or emergency medical care.

“Blood is a gift that money can't buy.”. “It's only something that

one person can give to another and that 's priceless.

Blood donation, the voluntary act of allowing one's blood to be drawn out of body has many advantages besides giving that wonderful feeling of saving someone's life. Most of the time it is an act of charity, though some times many people donate blood for money and other incentives. The blood donated is stored in blood banks, to be subsequently used for transfusion.

No doubt the first and foremost advantage of donating blood is the exalted feeling of saving someone's life. If we donate the little excess blood in our body, it could save someone's life without creating any problem for us. **Instead it would help to alleviate some major health problems like heart diseases.**

Blood donation is an excellent way to get rid of excess iron accumulated in our body due to it's over consumption. Excess iron in the body can stimulate the formation of free radicals, which are responsible for causing damage to body cells and tissues. Free radicals are also associated with many diseases like heart diseases and cancer. Iron overloading is also thought to increase the risk of heart diseases. Besides, iron oxidizes **cholesterol**, which is harmful for the arteries. Hemochromatosis is a genetic disease characterized by excess accumulation of iron in the tissues due to improper metabolism. The disease can cause damage to many organs like pancreas, adrenal glands, etc. It may also cause diabetes, liver diseases and heart diseases. So, **donating blood on a regular basis would help you to regulate the level of iron** in your body. Studies have shown that **donating blood** regularly can be beneficial for the heart and circulatory system and can reduce the risk of heart diseases, especially among young people.

Besides, blood donation also burns the extra calories and reduces your cholesterol level. After donating

blood, the count of blood cells decreases in our body, which stimulates the bone marrow to produce new red blood cells in order to replenish the loss. So, it stimulates the production of new blood cells and refreshes the system.

Before donating blood, your hemoglobin level will be tested. If it is low, then you will not be allowed to donate blood. Besides hemoglobin, your blood pressure level and body weight will also be checked. In addition, your blood will also be examined for detecting the presence of five diseases, namely, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, Syphilis, HIV/AIDS and Malaria. If you are not suffering from these diseases, only then you will be allowed to donate your blood.

There are no major disadvantages of donating blood, except that sometimes one may experience a drop in blood pressure due to hypoglycemia (a state of reduced blood volume), which may necessitate cancellation of donation. Sometimes, one may also experience mild nausea or dizziness for a short while. But if you compare the health benefits and mental satisfaction that comes from saving a life, you will feel that benefits of this act of charity is not only restricted to the recipient, but also helps the donor immensely

It is the responsibility and commitment of the society to make available **SAFE BLOOD**. The only source to get safe blood is to motivate the blood donors to become **Regular Repeated Altruistic Voluntary Blood Donors**.

“HURRY ! TO BE REGULAR REPEATED VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONOR FOR SAFE BLOOD !”

warm regards,

K P Rajagopalan
General Secretary(KEBS)

Ratheesh Sahadevan- A Repeat Regular Donor and a Motivator sharing his experience



WE HAVE A LOT TO DO ...

I have started my blood donation activities during my college life at TKM Engineering College, Kollam. National Service Scheme unit was very active in TKM College of Engineering and blood donation was the most regular NSS activity in TKM. From almost all the hospitals like Govt District Hospital and all other major Private Hospitals, relatives of patients used to come to college to get donors. Program Officer Dr.B Premlet was the motivation for my activities and I got many opportunities to help many peoples from all categories of our community in many emergency situations by arranging students for blood donation. Blood donation activity in TKM engineering college was very systematic. Every year one student was selected as Blood secretary for coordinating the activities. Every year for freshers we used to conduct blood grouping camp and Blood secretary will keep the register of donors-contact info and blood group. When the requirement comes he will contact respective group persons and arrange for donation. We also used to conduct Voluntary Donation Camps in campus. Girls were always ready to donate in camps. I take this opportunity to thank all my TKM college mates for their great mind and support for my blood donation activities especially NSS friends, Program Officer, Premlet sir , College Union Chairman Girikrishnan etc.

When I joined in IIT Madras for my post graduation, I never expect I will get any chance to work in blood donation activities in that prime academic institution. But blood donation activity was not limited to NSS volunteers in IITM. In each hostel a student was given responsibility of arranging blood for needy people. Requirement was very high in IIT since persons from Adayar cancer centre and Railway hospital used to come to IIT regularly for blood. Later when I joined in VSSC, I came to know that an official Blood donation forum is there in VSSC for supporting the employees and their relatives. Initially I didn't enter to blood donation activities in office. But once I got a call from my TKM batch mate from Bangalore for one negative group blood for his aunty in trivandrum . That

time I understood the situation is bad and same as my college days and thought of going back to my blood donation activities. Once I attended a one day camp arranged by All Kerala Blood Donors Society(KEBS) at Govt Hospital Peroorkada and understood that what ever I had done was nothing. In that meeting I met many people like Dr. K Mohandas, Mr. U.Suresh Kumar (Present PSC Member), Mr. K. P. Rajagopalan (Health Department), Mr. Byju Nellimood (Business Man), Mr. V.K Chandrasekara Pillai (VSSC) etc who were working for real Voluntary Blood donation for years. All these peoples donated blood over 50 times in their life. I also understood the difference between replacement and voluntary blood donation and the real need of voluntary blood donation (VBD). KEBS was initiated under the leadership of Late. Shri. M.K Joseph IPS, former DGP of kerala.

Current Scenario in Trivandrum.

Reports shows that about 25% of total blood requirements in kerala are at Trivandrum. This is because of existence of major hospitals like Regional Cancer Center, Medical College Hospital, Sree Chitra Thirunal Institute For Medical Sciences, General Hospital, and many famous private hospitals in Trivandrum.

Sree Chitra Hospital Blood bank is always ready to conduct voluntary donation camps at any place in Trivandrum. Minimum 6 Voluntary donation camps per month are being conducted by Sree Chitra and a lot of regular voluntary donors are also there and hence here patients and by-standers are less suffering for blood compared to any other hospitals in Trivandrum. This is happening because of the very good and positive approach of the Blood Bank Officials and Staffs in Sree Chitra Hospital.

In Medical College Hospital and other Govt. Hospitals with the help of KSACS, HLL and TERUMO PENPOL Limited, the number of voluntary donations camps conducted had increased compared to previous years. Dr.Usha Titus played a good role on that. But in all these hospitals provision for conducting camps should be increased. Always

bystanders have to run around for arranging blood. Recent days Dengue fever affected persons got admitted in almost all the hospitals in Trivandrum. Apart from the medicine, blood platelet was the major requirement for these patients. Some cases up to 25 units of platelet were required for some dengue patients. Condition was almost like a major calamity. Every day relatives have to arrange 4-6 units of blood and patients with rare group blood suffer like anything.

The pathetic situation in RCC

Patients and by-standers in RCC are the most suffering people for arranging blood in the capital city. In all other hospitals most of the cases only one time requirement of blood is there except some rare cases like dialysis, dengue fever etc. But for cancer patients blood is needed regularly for their treatment. Getting 3-4 pints blood daily is not that much easy. Most of the patients are from north Kerala and they don't have any known people or organizations in Trivandrum. Bystanders will be mentally and financially suffering because of the cancer disease of their relatives. In that condition if he/she is asked to arrange 3-4 units of blood continuously, the situation is really pathetic.

People with their small kids are really suffering in RCC for arranging blood. If the blood is a rare group, situation will be worse. Everybody feel sad and disturbed if their children are not well. Just imagine that a smart kid of your friend or relative is admitted in RCC. How much he /she might be worried. In that situation if they are asked to arrange blood daily, really it will be pathetic situation. 10 months old Devadarshan from Kannur, 2 year old Anirudh, 2 year old Suraj from Alapuzha, 22 year old Faisal from Moolvattupuzha. Like that so many examples. Arranging blood should not be the responsibility of the patient or the bystander. Definitely it should be the responsibility of the Society and Government. For that the only solution is conducting maximum number of Voluntary Blood Donation Camps. RCC Blood Bank Officials and Employees are really hard working. In the present scenar-

io blood bank facility and manpower is not at all sufficient in RCC. At present provision for one camp per month only is there. It should be really changed. Facilities and manpower should be enhanced to conduct at least two camps per week. At present generally bleeding time is only up to 1 p.m in RCC and holidays bleeding is not at all possible. By increasing manpower and improving blood bank facility we could help the suffering patients and bystanders in RCC. It is high time to think about a special team for conducting regular donation camps for RCC. Authorities should take immediate action for this. Same time blood donors and blood donation activists should think about regular voluntary donation at RCC blood bank itself. We should not wait for the facility improvement. Higher-ups are not suffering. Poor patients and their relatives are only suffering. As a solution if we can arrange

10-15 voluntary donors per day regularly at RCC Blood Bank that will be a big help to all. From each organization if we can send at least 1 or 2 donors daily, that itself will solve the problem. College Students under the banner of College Union, NSS or NCC, Trade Unions, Software Companies, Government Offices, Banks, Auto drivers, Business people under the banner of their organizations, Political youth organizations, Religion organizations, Press and Electronic Media, Celebrities etc should come forward and join in this mission for helping poor and suffering people at RCC. Another option is College Students can think about RCC adopting system. One college or two colleges jointly can offer volunteers for all needy patients for one week. Next week other college can do the same. About 100 colleges are here in Trivandrum. If at least 25 colleges are coming forward on rotation basis college students can

arrange volunteers for blood donation. That will solve the total problem based on blood requirement in RCC. We have to do a lot for helping these suffering people. Please come forward and do something to solve this issue.

Incentives

Government is spending huge amount of money every year for the promotion of voluntary blood donation. Along with that small non-financial incentives can also be introduced for the promotion of Voluntary Blood Donation such as some grace marks for PSC Exams and Interviews, PG Admission and Civil Service Exams, some preference for taking passport and license etc. Non-financial incentives would not attract high risk persons for the blood donation. So the society has to do a lot...

SAFE BLOOD DONATION

During the inaugural address on World AIDS Day, Mr. C Balagopal, Managing Director of TERUMO PENPOL stressed the importance of Blood donation in saving a human life. He also added that insecure practice of blood donation is the main cause to spread AIDS in our country.

One way to start a movement towards a safe blood transfusion service is to encourage voluntary blood donation. If sufficiently large number of voluntary donors come forward, then, in accordance with the laws of supply and demand, much of the current problems afflicting of blood services in India would have been solved.

Adequate availability of blood from regular voluntary donors would make it unnecessary for patients to have to run from pillar to post looking for donors. Second, the fact that the blood from repeat regular donors means that it is by and large safe, a fact that will merely be confirmed by the testing procedures. On the other hand, in the case of one time donors, one has to rely entirely on the test method, which carries an element of risk since there is no test procedure that has 100 percentage sensitivity and specificity.

It will also create a large and growing body of voluntary donors who will help mobilize public opinion in favor of strong action by Governments to ensure safe and assured supplies of blood components.



C Balagopal, Managing Director, Terumo Penpol lights the traditional lamp

The members of Club 25 were present to hear the informative and in-depth speech on Preventing HIV AIDS and to promote safe blood donation.

“Our state is the poorest among the others in the matter of blood donation. Here, among the 32 million people, we could collect only three lakh units of blood. That is not sufficient to meet the need. Every day, each one of our employee will be present at the Regional Cancer Center to donate blood,” said C Balagopal.

In the state there are two kinds of demand for blood - that of acute (or) emergency demand and chronic demand. But the response to blood donation in the state is not satisfactory compared to other states in India. “There need to be a collective effort from the part of the authorities to initiate a momentum in voluntary blood donation in the state,” he added.



Blood Donation Slogans

MINE, YOURS, HIS & HERS
BLOOD
WILL SAVE

ME, YOU, HIM & HER

WANT TO EXPERIENCE BEING LIKE A GOD?
WILLFULLY GRANT LIFE, DONATE BLOOD!

TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, WILL REPRODUCE ONE PINT,
THAT YOU DONATE
NUMBERS OF HOURS, CONSIDER ON OTHERS,
THAT ONE PINT, WILL GENERATE

ARE YOU, EQUATED TO GOD?
DONATE BLOOD THEN EQUATE!

LIKE OIL LIGHTS UP SO MANY HOUSES
BLOOD TOO LIGHTS UP SO MANY LIVES

OIL LIGHTS UP HOUSES BUT IT IS SCARCE
BLOOD TOO LIGHTS UP LIVES, BUT LET IT NOT BE
RARE

YOU DONATED BLOOD,
YOUR BODY REPLENISHES IT IN ONE DAY.
YOUR DONATED BLOOD,
REPLENISH ONES LIFE FOR INNUMERABLE DAYS.



Contributed by _____
WG CDR D SENDHIL KUMAR

Winners of Quiz Competition Organized By TERUMO PENPOL Limited Receiving Prize On World Aids Day

