

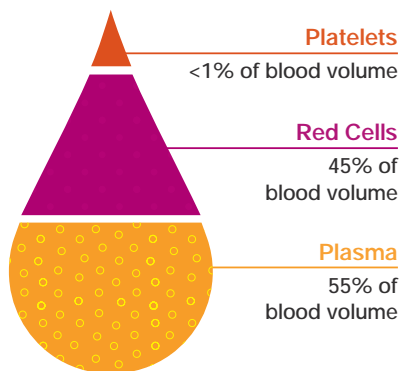
# WHAT BLOOD IS— AND WHY IT MATTERS

## Blood 101

Every two seconds, someone needs blood. And every patient is different. While someone being treated for leukemia may need platelets, burn victims frequently need plasma, and red blood cells can mean the difference between life and death for a premature baby.

### About blood components

Produced in the bone marrow, blood is typically collected in what is called “whole blood” and then separated into its unique components: platelets, red cells, and plasma; each can deliver a life-saving benefit to someone in need.



### Whose type can you match?

Donors with type O- blood are universal red cell donors whose donations can be given to people of all blood types. Donors with types AB- and AB+ blood are universal plasma donors, while patients with type AB+ are universal red cell recipients because they can receive red cells from all types. All other donors and recipients must be safely matched.

### About blood types

Often abbreviated ABO, blood types are inherited and fall into four groups or types: O, A, B, AB. Each blood type also is identified as either Rh positive or negative (the Rh factor being an inherited blood group on red blood cells). Approximately 85% of the U.S. population is Rh-positive (i.e., O+, A+, B+, AB+). Those who do not have the Rh factor are Rh-negative (O-, A-, B-, AB-) and are quite rare.

| If you are | % of U.S. <sup>1</sup> | You can give to <sup>2</sup> | You can receive from <sup>2</sup> | Donation type most needed   |
|------------|------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| O+         | 38%                    | O+, A+, B+, AB+              | O+/-                              | Double red cells            |
| O-         | 7%                     | All Blood Types              | O-                                | Double red cells            |
| A+         | 34%                    | A+, AB+                      | O+/-, A+/-                        | Platelets, Plasma           |
| A-         | 6%                     | A+/-, AB+/-                  | O-, A-                            | Double red cells, Platelets |
| B+         | 9%                     | B+, AB+                      | O+/-, B+/-                        | Platelets, Plasma           |
| B-         | 2%                     | B+/-, AB+/-                  | O-, B-                            | Double red cells, Platelets |
| AB+        | 3%                     | AB+                          | All Blood Types                   | Platelets, Plasma           |
| AB-        | 1%                     | AB+/-                        | O-, A-, B-, AB-                   | Platelets, Plasma           |

<sup>1</sup> Percentages based on U.S. population. <sup>2</sup> Donation for red cell transfusion.



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