Can you help? New Zealand Blood Service needs people who have recently had Shingles or Chickenpox

To donate, contact us today to book your appointment

0800 448 325 nzblood.co.nz

If you have any queries about information in this leaflet please contact one of our centres

Epsom Donor Centre
71 Great South Road, Epsom 09 523 5733

North Shore Donor Centre
441 Lake Road, Takapuna 09 489 8858

Manukau Donor Centre
Unit B, 116 Cavendish Drive 09 263 4667

Tauranga Donor Centre
154-168 Cameron Road 07 578 2194

Hamilton Donor Centre
Gate 1, Waikato Hospital, 21 Ohaupo Road 07 839 3679

Palmerston North Donor Centre
50 Ruahine Street 06 350 0963

Wellington Donor Centre
Hospital Road, Newtown 04 380 2243

Christchurch Donor Centre
15 Lester Lane, Addington 03 343 9040

Dunedin Donor Centre
170 Crawford Street, Dunedin 03 477 9920

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Chickenpox can produce very severe effects in children being treated for leukaemia or cancer.

A special antibody concentrate is needed to treat these children if they are exposed to chickenpox.

It is made from the blood of people recovering from shingles or people who have high levels of antibody to this infection.

The antibody concentrate is called Zoster Immune Globulin.

Your support may help young lives

The main selection criteria to become a blood donor are to:

• Be aged between 16-65 (but before your 66th birthday).
• Weigh at least 50 kg.
• Be well and in good health (apart from having had shingles or chickenpox).
• Have waited 4 months after tattooing or body piercing.

Some donors have medical conditions, are on medication, or have had treatment that will need to be discussed with a NZBS donor nurse but DO NOT necessarily prevent you from donating.

If you have a high level of shingles antibody

We will invite you to give special plasma donations. You will receive your own red blood cells back again and we will keep only the plasma.

Plasma is the liquid gold part of your blood. There is no risk of anaemia from this type of blood donation.

If the following apply it will not be possible to collect blood or plasma donations:

• You have previously had a heart attack, stroke, or any severe chronic problem.
• Are HIV positive, or at risk of HIV, hepatitis B or C virus or have taken part in any sexual or IV drug-using activities that have a risk for passing on these infections.
• Anyone who has spent more than a total of 6 months in the United Kingdom, France or the Republic of Ireland between 1 January 1980 and 31 December 1996, or received a blood transfusion in ANY of these countries since 1 January 1980, cannot give a blood donation.

If you wish to help and:

• Are willing to help provide an essential treatment product for children.
• Fit the donor eligibility criteria.