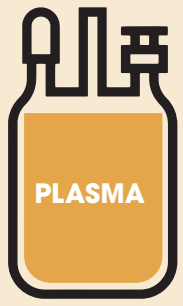
What happens to your blood after you donate?

What components come from **blood** donations?

Red blood cells – carry oxygen through the body. Used to treat bleeding or people with anaemia.

Platelets – important for blood clotting. Used to treat patients with severe bleeding or leukaemia.

Plasma – is the liquid our red cells and platelets float in. Used to treat patients with bleeding or who need antibody concentrates.



What products are made from **plasma** donations?

Albumin is used in the treatment of burns, major blood loss, plasma exchange and for patients with kidney problems.

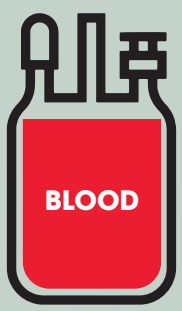
Anti-D is used to treat Rh-negative mothers to prevent haemolytic disease in newborn babies.

Immunoglobulin products are used to treat immune disorders and deficiencies, autoimmune conditions and chemotherapy patients.

Clotting products to prevent bleeding where some clotting factors are low.

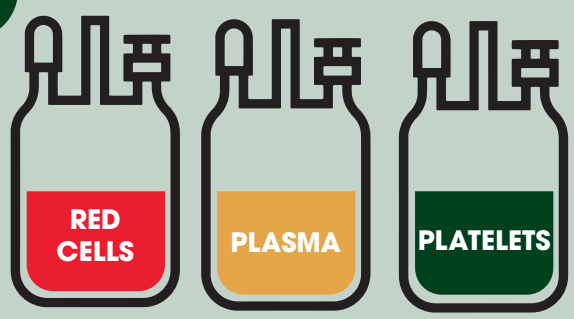
Blood components are separated and turned into lifesaving products

1



Blood is collected into special bags.

2



It is separated into 3 components: red cells, plasma and platelets.

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All blood and components are tested for HIV and other viruses.

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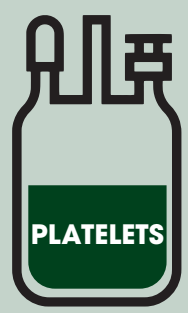

Platelets last for 7 days at room temperature.

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Red cells last 35 days in the fridge.

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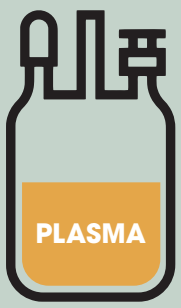

Plasma is separated into 2 streams:

1. Some is used for a mixture of clotting factors and given directly to patients. Lasts for 2 years in the freezer.

2. Some is purified into specific proteins used to make 11 lifesaving treatments. Lasts for 2 - 3 years in the fridge.

7

All are sent to the blood banks and hospitals around New Zealand.

Book now
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nzblood.co.nz

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