New York Hospital Queens

Facts You Should Know About Directed Donations and Transfusion

The Directed Donor Program
New York Hospital Queens
Blood Donor Center

(718) 670-1007

You have just been informed that you may require a blood transfusion during your hospitalization at New York Hospital Queens. If so, New York Hospital Queens Blood Donor Center offers a Directed Donor program that allows you to select your own donors from family and friends, rather than receive volunteer units of blood from the Blood Bank.

Before deciding to participate in this program, you should be aware of the following facts:

- There is no scientific evidence that directed donor blood is safer than community donated blood.

- Your directed donors should donate blood **voluntarily** and without reservation. Do not put undue pressure on anyone to donate.

- Blood units donated at the Blood Donor Center are to be used at New York Hospital Queens **only** and cannot be transferred to another institution.

- Directed donors are accepted by appointment only. Donation hours are Monday to Friday, from 9 AM – 5 PM, and Wednesday.

- Directed donors must donate at least 5-7 days (excluding weekends and holidays) prior to the anticipated blood transfusion. There is no directed donation on an emergency basis.

- Criteria for accepting and processing directed donors are identical to those used for community Blood donors.

- **Every effort will be made by the Blood Bank to use Directed blood units (packed red blood cells only) for you. However, if such units do not meet laboratory testing requirements, are not compatible with your blood, or if extenuating circumstances, including emergency situations arise, the Blood Bank cannot guarantee that all units donated for you will be available. In the event that Directed donor units are not/ available, you will receive**

community donated blood.

- If a directed unit is not suitable for transfusion, it will be discarded immediately. The Blood Bank has no obligation to inform you of such an event. We will notify your physician and he/she will decide if additional blood units are required. Standard donor notification procedures will be followed to notify the donor of any additional health risk.

- Directed donor blood units that are "reserved" for your use will be held for a maximum of 30 days from the day of donation. If not used by you, such units will be placed in stock for general use after 30 days, or once you are discharged from the hospital, whichever comes first.

- Because of the possibility that all directed units donated may not be available for your use, it is recommended that you send additional donors above and beyond the number of units recommended by your physician.

How do I arrange to have Directed Donors?

If you are interested in the Directed Donor Program, please discuss it with your physician. Then, have your directed donors call the New York Hospital Queens Blood Donor Center at (718) 670-1007 to make the necessary appointments for their donations.

Directed donors should inform our staff that they are donating specifically for you. They must be able to provide us with the following information:

the exact name under which you will be admitted to the hospital,
--your date of birth
--your address
--your telephone number
--your Social Security Number
--your date of surgery
--the name of your physician/surgeon.

We provide free parking for prospective donors in the Main Street Parking Lot. (Bring your parking ticket slip with you to the Blood Donor Center for validation).

Directed donations are taken by appointment only. For an appointment, please call (718) 670 – 1007.

NYHQ Blood Donor Center Hours:
Monday, Thursday, Friday
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
(Last donor registered at 4:00 PM)

Tuesday and Wednesday
9:00 AM – 9:00 PM
(Last donor registered at 8:00 PM)

We will be glad to answer any questions you or your Directed donors may have about blood transfusions.

New York Hospital Queens
Blood Donor Center
(8th Floor South, off Red Elevators)
56-45 Main Street
Flushing, NY 11355-5095

Telephone: (718) 670-1007 Fax: (718) 661-7977

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