

You've Got Liquid Gold



Because you have a rare blood type (AB), you have the potential to be a universal platelet and plasma donor.

Less than 4% of the population has your blood type. That means that while the red cell portion of your blood is not in high demand — your platelets and plasma can be safely transfused to **all blood types**. This makes AB donors the universal platelet and plasma donors.

SCBB constantly struggles to provide hospitals with this precious resource.

Platelets are vital to life because they help prevent massive blood loss by aiding the clotting process. They are most frequently used in the treatment of cancer patients and organ transplants.

The challenge is that platelets are only viable for five days after donation.

Plasma is used to save patients with serious conditions such as severe burns, bleeding disorders and immune system dysfunction. The US Military is always requesting AB plasma for their troops in the field.

Automated Donation

The pool of eligible blood donors is shrinking at an unprecedented rate. At the same time, our population continues to expand, and medical advances allow people to live longer than ever before. The result is an ever-widening gap between blood supply and demand.

One solution to remedy the disparity is automated blood collection instruments that allow donors to give specific components of their blood. This automated process is called apheresis (a fur ee sis) and allows SCBB staff to calibrate each donation to meet each individual donor's physical make-up.

Automated donations can be used to collect red blood cells, platelets, plasma or any combination.

Safe and Comfortable

Your comfort and safety are paramount and donors routinely report the ease and positive benefits of automated donations.

Always in Demand

The high demand and the exceedingly short shelf-life make platelet collection a tough balancing act.

Plasma is the #1 sought-after blood component by surgeons and oncologists.

For More Information

We want to answer all your questions about automated donation. Please contact Carlen Kelly at 941.954.1600 x1005 ckelly@scbb.org or Brenda Szych at 941.485.4800 bszych@scbb.org.

