

Donor's Rights and Responsibilities in Abu Dhabi Blood Bank Services

Individuals have rights and responsibilities as blood/apheresis donors. These include:

Donor's Rights (applicable for all types of donation):

- To be informed of the mission of the Abu Dhabi Blood Bank Services (ADBBS) and the intended use of the donation.
- Blood donation shall, in all circumstances, be voluntary; no pressure of any kind must be brought to bear upon the donor.
- To be assured their information will be kept confidential.
- To ensure that the donor understands all questions and responds accurately to the donor questionnaire.
- To ask any questions when making a donation and to receive prompt and accurate information.
- Anonymity between donor and recipient must be respected except in special cases.
- Blood donation must not entail discrimination of any kind, either of race, nationality or religion.
- Blood must be collected by trained staff under the responsibility of the blood bank's physician or trained staff nurse.
- The frequency of donations and the total volume of the blood collected depends on the sex and weight of the individual, as well as the upper and lower age limits for blood donation, as defined by national and international regulations.
- To be informed that his/her blood will be tested for blood group and serology and the test results will be given to the donor.
- To be informed about the reason and the length of the deferral if applicable.
- The donor has the right to withdraw from blood donation at any time during the procedure for any reason, including doubts as to their suitability as a blood donor, without any need to explain their decision.

Donor's right (Specific for Apheresis donors):

- To be informed about the risks and adverse events related to the procedure; the donor's health and safety must be of a constant concern.
- Donation of platelets apheresis is governed by special regulations that specify:
 - The donor must be informed if any drugs will be administered during the donation process;
 - The donor must be informed about the nature of any additional tests to be carried out;
 - The donor must be informed about the number of sessions within a given time frame.

Donor's Responsibilities:

- To answer the donor's medical history questionnaire honestly and to the best of his/her knowledge.
- To read and sign the consent form, which is witnessed by an ADBBS staff and recognizes that his/her signature is an affirmation that all responses provided to the questionnaire are accurate and the donor is willing to be informed of their test results.
- Have a responsibility to provide ADBBS staff with all relevant information to the best of their knowledge about health conditions or activities that may pose risks to their and patient's health.
- Have a responsibility to exclude themselves from blood donation if they believe they are unsuitable to donate; donors should not use blood donation as a means to obtain medical check-ups, to know their HIV status or to be tested for other serological markers.
- Have a responsibility to inform ADBBS staff regarding any doubts about their suitability after a blood donation is made or in the event of a change in health status within 30 days following a blood donation.