Platelet Donations

SAVING LIVES WITH YOUR PLATELETS

Before Your Appointment

Before your appointment, drink plenty of fluids, eat regular meals and refrain from aspirin or products containing aspirin for 48 hours before your platelet donation.

During Your Appointment

Donating platelets takes approximately two hours – time that many donors use to relax and enjoy some much needed down-time! For some fun ways donors enjoy their donation time, watch our video at www.ribc.org/platelets.

Eligibility

You must be at least 17 years old and weigh 110 pounds or more. Sixteen year olds can donate with parental permission.

Questions about eligibility?
Call 401-453-8307

Your donation, makes a world of difference.
Why Your Platelets Are Needed

Platelets help our blood to clot, control bleeding, and can be the difference between life and death. Many patients undergoing life-saving medical treatments, such as chemotherapy and radiation, require platelet transfusions to survive.

The Process

Platelets are collected through a special device, which allows you to give only the part of your blood patients need the most. Your other cells are returned to you during the donation.

Most of us have a surplus of platelets in our bodies, and after donating some, we still have more than we need! So if you wish, you can donate:

- Every 2 weeks & up to 24 times a year
- The blood cells that are not needed are painlessly returned to you during the donation.
- The collection, separation, and return happen intermittently throughout the donation process using a single, safe and sterile tube.

Step by Step

1. Your donation begins with your blood being collected through a special device.
2. The device separates your red blood cells, plasma and platelets.
3. The blood cells that are not needed are painlessly returned to you during the donation.
4. The collection, separation, and return happen intermittently throughout the donation process using a single, safe and sterile tube.

Platelets must be transfused within 5 days of your donation.

3 lives can be saved with your platelet donation.

For inspiring stories about local people who are helped with platelet donations, visit ribc.org/platelets