

New York, NY (June 15, 2016) – New York Blood Center (NYBC) has declared a blood emergency and is asking the public to donate blood at a nearby drive, NYBC center or mobile unit to help replenish the community’s blood supply. Recent national tragedies are reminders that it is imperative for NYBC to always have an adequately stocked blood supply to respond when communities are faced with patient traumas or other events that require life-saving blood products.

NYPD 105th Precinct

EMERGENCY BLOOD SHORTAGE BLOOD DRIVE

Friday, June 24, 2016

92-08 22nd Street, Queens Village, NY

Location: Muster Room

EVERY DONOR WILL RECEIVE A T-SHIRT FOR DONATING

In order to maintain a safe blood supply a seven-day inventory of all types must be continually replenished. Companies, organizations, and community groups are encouraged to donate or host their own blood drives to help rebuild the blood stock – NYBC’s staff can help each step of the way.

O negative blood donors are considered “universal,” and their blood type is needed most readily in trauma situations and emergency rooms across the country. Due to its high demand, O negative blood is in short supply and NYBC encourages individuals with this blood type to consider stepping forward and donate today. Our local blood supply has reached a critically low level, with under a two-day supply of O negative, B negative, and A negative.

As we head into the summer months, we are reminded of how essential it is that our community maintain steady participation in blood donation. Preparation for events such as these — having blood on hospital shelves in advance — is key to potentially save lives.

“By spreading the word or even hosting your own blood drive, inviting friends, family, and community organizations, you may save lives in your community,” said Andrea Cefarelli, Executive Director of NYBC. “We are in dire need of O negative blood with a reserve that is currently below a two day supply, and that is just too low.”

Historically, during the summer months, blood centers have had to focus on building up the community’s blood product supply, as it tends to diminish due to seasonal factors. While summer months are marked by a long vacation period, with schools in recess and leisure time, the need for blood never takes a vacation. NYBC urges individuals to seek out nearby blood donation centers and to engage in the selfless act of donating, helping to prevent a summer blood shortage and potentially saving the life of someone in need.

More About Blood Donations

The entire donation process takes less than an hour and a single donation can be used to save multiple lives. Donors with O-negative blood type, or “universal donors,” are especially encouraged to donate, as their blood can be used in emergencies. Nearly 2,000 donations are needed each day in New York and New Jersey alone. About one in seven hospital admissions requires a blood transfusion, and with a limited shelf life, supplies must be continually replenished.

If you cannot donate but still wish to participate in bringing crucial blood products to patients in need, please ask someone to donate for you, or consider volunteering at a local blood drive.

Any company, community organization, place of worship, or individual may host a blood drive.

Blood donors receive free mini-medical exams on site including information about their temperature, blood pressure and hematocrit level. Eligible donors include those people at least age 16 (parental consent is required for 16-year-olds), who weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, are in good health and meet all Food & Drug Administration and NY or NJ State Department of Health donor criteria. People age 76 or older may donate if they have a doctor’s note on file with New York Blood Center or if they bring one on the day of the blood drive.

Sincerely,

Damian Pough

Account Manager

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Why we do this:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/NewYorkBloodCenter#p/a/f/0/Pq-DLVorBqU>

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