BLOOD IS AN ESSENTIAL MEDICINE
THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR HUMAN BLOOD

1 unit of blood can save up to 3 lives
Every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood
Fewer than 5% of eligible donors give blood

BLOOD CONSISTS OF SEVERAL COMPONENTS THOSE MOST NEEDED BY PATIENTS ARE:

WHOLE BLOOD
Whole blood contains red cells, white cells, and platelets suspended in plasma.
Use: Major Trauma/Surgery

RED BLOOD CELLS
Red blood cells carry hemoglobin and are essential for oxygen exchange in the lungs.
Use: Anemia, Surgical Blood Loss, Chemotherapy

PLATELETS
Platelets are small cell fragments whose main function is to interact with clotting proteins to stop or prevent bleeding.
Use: Thrombocytopenia, Congenital and Acquired Platelet Disorders

PLASMA
Plasma is a fluid composed of ~92% water and 8% proteins, mineral salts, sugars, fats, hormones and vitamins.
Use: Liver Disease, Coagulopathy, Abnormal Coagulation Tests, Coagulation Factor Deficiency

WHO NEEDS BLOOD?
1 IN 7 HOSPITAL PATIENTS NEED BLOOD FOR MANY REASONS, INCLUDING:

• Trauma
• Postpartum Hemorrhage
• Cancer
• Sickle Cell Disease
• Hemophilia
• Kidney Disease
• Liver Disease
• Preterm Infants
• Transplants
• Critical Care
• Burns

HOW MUCH DOES IT TAKE?
AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT VICTIM MAY NEED UP TO
50 RED BLOOD CELL UNITS

A CANCER PATIENT UNDERGOING CHEMOTHERAPY MAY NEED UP TO
8 PLATELET UNITS/WEEK

AN ORGAN TRANSPLANT RECIPIENT MAY NEED UP TO
25 PLASMA UNITS
30 PLATELET UNITS
40 RED BLOOD CELL UNITS

Is Your Facility is Accredited by AABB?
AABB-accredited facilities adhere to the highest standards of donor and patient care and safety.

SOURCES:
Primer of Blood Administration. AABB Press, 2018