

Become a plasma donor

As a plasma donor, you won't just make a difference,
you'll make all the difference.

Partners for Life toolkit



**Canadian
Blood
Services**

BLOOD
PLASMA
STEM CELLS
ORGANS
& TISSUES



@CanadasLifeline

**For many, plasma is
the only treatment.**

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Plasma is the protein-rich liquid in our blood that can help treat a growing number of illnesses and injuries. Immune globulin, a plasma product, treats various primary and secondary immune disorders, autoimmune diseases, neurological conditions and other diseases with an immune origin.

As researchers discover more treatments, the need for plasma increases—and so does the need for donors. A lifesaving donation takes just over an hour.

Together with your colleagues, you can make all the difference for those who live, work and play in your organization, community and beyond.

“

I've kind of always believed that I was going to be okay, that something would be in place when I needed it. And it turned out that [what I needed] was plasma. When I needed it, it was there, and that's because somebody donated.

Terry,
plasma recipient



Facts about plasma

What is plasma?

Plasma is the protein-rich liquid in blood that helps other blood components circulate throughout the body.

What are plasma derived products used for?

Plasma protein products are currently being used to treat a growing number of illnesses and injuries including:



Cancer



Nervous system disorders



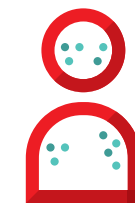
Bleeding disorders



Rh disease (in newborns)



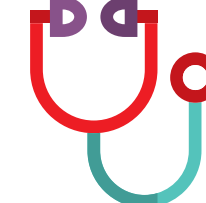
Organ transplants



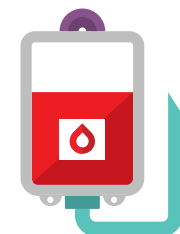
Chickenpox and measles



Surgeries



Immune deficiencies



Rare blood disorders



Severe burns



Kidney diseases

Why do we need more donated plasma in Canada?

As part of our role, Canadian Blood Services is responsible for monitoring the amount of human plasma available to meet the needs of patients in Canada. For some time, we have been seeing a steady increase in the use of and demand for plasma-derived products in Canada and around the globe.

By increasing the amount of raw material (source plasma) we collect from donors through our existing infrastructure, as well as making plans to collect more in the future, we are striking the right balance for patients.

Why consider donating plasma?

Plasma collected at your plasma donor centre is used for fractionation. This means that your donated plasma will be manufactured into 50 lifesaving medications and distributed to 730 hospitals and clinics across the country. These medications treat a variety of rare, life-threatening, chronic, and genetic conditions.

Who can donate plasma?

Any healthy person who meets our eligibility criteria can donate plasma. You can donate plasma more frequently than whole blood — every 7 days for males and every 14 days for females. More questions? Call us at **1 888 2 DONATE** to discuss your eligibility.

Facts about plasma

Plasma donors must:

- Weigh over 50 kg (110 lb.)
- Be in general good health
- Be 17 years of age or older

Can I donate plasma if I have traveled to or lived in a malaria risk area or have history of malaria? You may be able to donate plasma. This is because your donated plasma is manufactured into specialized medications and during this process pathogens in the plasma are eliminated. For more information visit blood.ca/Plasma

What is it like to donate plasma?

The process for donating plasma is similar to donating blood. The main difference between a whole blood and plasma donation is the collection method — known as apheresis. Only the plasma portion of your blood is collected; the other blood components (red cells, white cells and platelets) are returned to you.

Where can you donate plasma?

Donor centre hours:

How to get involved

Whether you are a local business, a community group or a large organization, donating as a team allows you to build meaningful connections while helping to save lives together.

Together, you'll make all the difference.

Become an awareness champion for Canadian Blood Services

As a champion, you are an integral part of **Canada's Lifeline**. You'll engage your colleagues, employees, members, partners, and customers on the significance of blood, plasma, stem cells, organs and tissues; while inspiring many others to make all the difference.

- Host live or virtual donor recruitment events.
- Become an advocate in your organization or community.
- Share your story or reason on social media and inspire others to donate.
- Host fund raising initiatives in support of Canadian Blood Services.

Join the Partners for Life program

The Partners for Life program offers organizations the opportunity to recruit donors and/or raise funds to support patients in need. To learn more or to register a team for the Partners for Life program, please visit **blood.ca/partners** or contact your local Canadian Blood Services representative.

Book a group donation

Saving lives together is the ultimate team building opportunity. Donate as a team at one of our plasma donor centres.

Adopt a donor centre

Adopting a Canadian Blood Services plasma donor centre or donor chair means rallying your network (large or small teams) to support plasma donation over the course of a day, week or even a month.

Set an annual blood donation pledge

Simply register your organization, set an annual donation pledge and make sure your team uses your unique Partners for Life booking code to ensure all donations are counted towards your organization's pledge goal.

Make a financial donation

Did you know? Canadian Blood Services is a registered charity. Every financial donation makes a difference in our efforts to improve the outcomes of patients in Canada. You may choose to designate your gift to help fuel transformation in one of four key areas (blood, stem cells, organs and tissues or research and innovation), or opt to support the area of greatest need.

Charitable registration number: 870 157 641 RR0001

Shareable videos

Share these videos and relevant messaging on social media to help encourage others to make all the difference as plasma donors.

To watch and share the videos, click each image.

Spread the word:

   @CanadasLifeline



Make all the difference
30 second video



Make all the difference – Plasma
15 second video

About Canadian Blood Services



Canadian Blood Services is a not-for-profit charitable organization. Regulated by Health Canada as a biologics manufacturer and primarily funded by the provincial and territorial ministries of health, Canadian Blood Services operates with a national scope, infrastructure and governance that make it unique within Canadian healthcare. In the domain of blood, plasma and stem cells, we provide services for patients on behalf of all provincial and territorial governments except Quebec. The national transplant registry for interprovincial organ sharing and related programs reaches into all provinces and territories, as a biological lifeline for Canadians. Visit blood.ca to learn more.

For more information, please contact:

Learn more at blood.ca/partnersforlife.