



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SINGAPORE RED CROSS AND BLOODBANK@HSA  
CALL FOR CONTINUED BLOOD DONATIONS**

**Singapore, 18 June 2010** – The Singapore Red Cross (SRC) and the Bloodbank@HSA are calling all blood donors who are due for their donation, to come forward to donate this weekend.

As of today, the national blood stock level is about 1,400 units, enough for the next three to four days. However, to ensure our ability to continue to meet the daily transfusion needs and bleeding emergencies, we aim to bring the current bloodstock level to at least six days' supply of 1,800 units. (This means that we will need the support of about 750 donors over this weekend.)

There has been a consistent dip in blood stocks level over the past ten days. This is due to an increase in hospital utilisation and a decrease in blood collection in view of the school holidays. Compounded by the recent wet weather, these have caused a significant depletion of the national stockpiles, which needs to be ramped up in order to meet the daily transfusion needs of patients as well as for bleeding emergencies.

The daily national blood stock is monitored closely by SRC and Bloodbank@HSA. Given the current dip in the various blood types, HSA is closely monitoring the blood usage by the hospitals, and SRC is working with bloodmobile organisers to mobilise their staff/members/volunteers to come forward. SRC, as the national blood donor recruiter, has been issuing SMSes to recall blood donors, especially those who are due for their next blood donation, since 8 June. However, response has been slow. This blood appeal is an additional measure to call on potential blood donors to come forward to ramp up the stockpile. As blood can only be kept for a limited period of time, we seek the support of blood donors to help us ensure a constant supply of blood.

In Singapore, more than 350 units are needed daily to meet the transfusion needs of patients in hospitals. The Singapore Red Cross, in partnership with the Bloodbank@HSA have enabled our national blood needs to be comfortably met over the years, with the exception of the usual seasonal dip in blood stocks during festive periods and school holidays.

## Blood Donors Urged to Come Forward

All healthy individuals between 16 and 60 years, weighing at least 45kg, are urged to come forward to help. Donors who have not made a donation in the past 12 weeks are encouraged to donate as well.

The public can donate blood at the [Bloodbank@HSA](#) located at 11 Outram Road [opposite Outram Park MRT Station]. The opening hours are as follows:

Tuesdays to Thursdays 9.00am to 6.30pm  
Fridays 9.00am to 8.00pm  
Saturdays 9.00am to 4.30pm  
Sundays 9.00am to 2.00pm  
Closed on Mondays and public holidays

The public can also donate blood at our community bloodmobiles. Details of the community mobiles are available online at [www.donorweb.org](http://www.donorweb.org). Those who wish to donate can call the Singapore Red Cross (SRC) at 62200183 for more details.

Donors need to bring their NRIC [for Singaporeans], or passport [for non-Singaporeans].

Those who have not donated blood before in Singapore can visit [www.hsa.gov.sg/donationcriteria](http://www.hsa.gov.sg/donationcriteria) or call SRC at 62200183 for more information on the blood donation criteria or to make an appointment for blood donation.

Please visit <http://sbs.donorweb.org/> to view Singapore's national blood stocks indicator. The alert level in the indicator and the corresponding stock level are as follow:

Alert Level in Blood Stocks Indicator	Blood Stock Level
Green (Healthy)	At least 6 days and more
Yellow (Low)	4 to 6 days
Yellow (Very Low)	3 to 4 days
Red (Critical)	Less than 3 days

**SINGAPORE RED CROSS & HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY**  
**18 JUNE 2010**

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### **About the Singapore Red Cross**

As the National Blood Donor Recruiter, the Singapore Red Cross is part of the world's largest humanitarian network, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which comprises 186 Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies around the world, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The Movement's work is based on the seven fundamental principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality.

For more information on the National Blood Programme, visit: <http://www.redcross.org.sg/> or <http://donorweb.org/>.

### **About the Health Sciences Authority (HSA)**

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) is a multidisciplinary agency that applies medical, pharmaceutical and scientific expertise through its three professional groups, Health Products Regulation, Blood Services, Applied Sciences, to protect and advance national health and safety. It serves as the national regulator for health products, ensuring they are wisely regulated to meet standards of safety, quality and efficacy. It operates the national blood bank, Bloodbank@HSA, securing the nation's blood supply. It also applies specialised scientific, forensic, investigative and analytical capabilities in serving the administration of justice. For more details, visit [www.hsa.gov.sg](http://www.hsa.gov.sg).

### **About HSA's Blood Services Group**

The Blood Services Group (BSG) of HSA, as the national blood service, secures the nation's blood supply by ensuring a safe and adequate blood supply. It operates the Bloodbank@HSA and is responsible for collecting, processing, testing and distributing blood and blood products to all hospitals in Singapore. It also provides specialist transfusion medicine services in immunohaematology and tissue typing and is actively engaged in the cutting edge therapeutic research area of cell processing.

Bloodbank@HSA is located at the HSA Building at 11 Outram Road, Singapore 169078 (directly opposite Outram Park MRT Station). Blood donors are welcome to call the Bloodbank@HSA at 6213 0626.