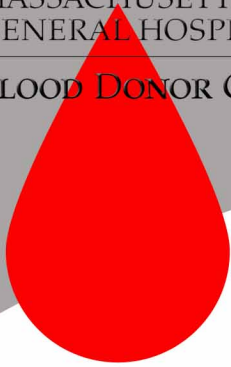




MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL HOSPITAL

BLOOD DONOR CENTER

THE FACTS



- Massachusetts General Hospital is the largest transfuser of blood in the state and one of the largest in the nation
- Only 5% of the eligible population ever donates blood.
- There is a 97% chance that you will need blood in your lifetime.
- Your blood donation is separated into its 3 parts - Red Cells, Plasma, and Platelets. Each part can be used by a different patient who is in need of a particular component. That allows your single donation to help 3 people!
- One out of every 10 hospital patients uses blood.
- Giving blood is safe, simple and satisfying.
- Traditionally, the holidays and summertime are the most difficult times for blood collection. Blood usage increases and donations are low.
- Although red blood cells can last 42 days, they rarely stay unused for that long. Most blood is used within days of being donated.
- Every 2 seconds someone needs blood.
- There is no way to manufacture blood. This means that the only way to obtain blood is through donations made by healthy human donors.
- If you are type -O we strongly urge you to donate on a regular basis, as -O is the universal donor.
- When you donate you give a little less than a pint of blood. The volume lost is replaced within 24 hours.