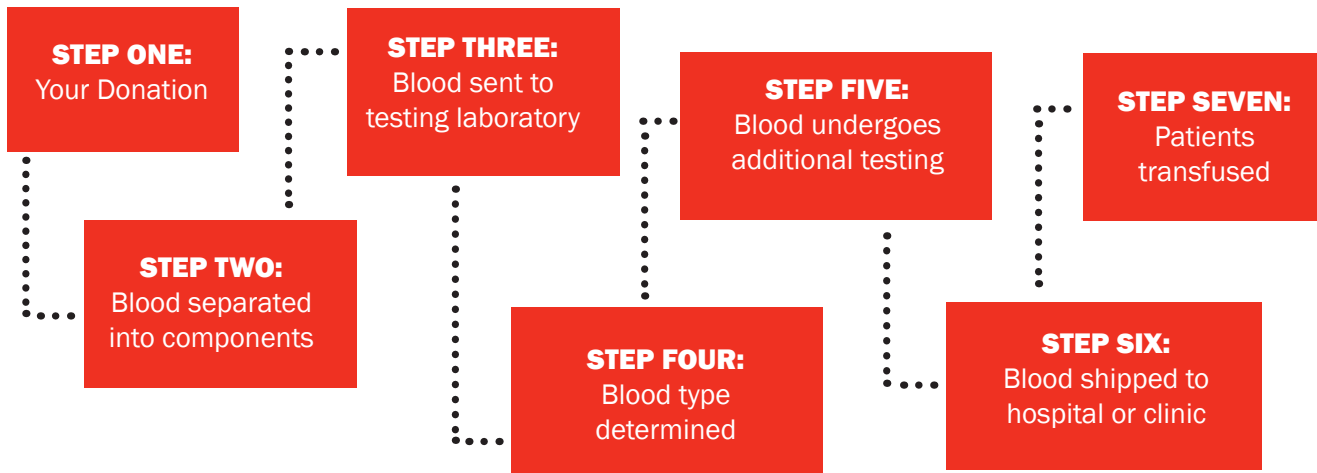


# BLOOD COMPATIBILITY & COMPONENTS

There are four main blood types: A, B, AB and O. Blood is also classified as either Rh Positive or Rh Negative. For each patient's safety, blood is cross-matched prior to transfusion. Common blood types are needed more often because more patients have those types, so they require higher inventory levels. Less common types are more difficult to collect in an emergency. The rarest blood type is the type that is not available when it is needed.



## BLOOD COMPONENTS

- Whole blood is used to replace massive blood loss due to surgery or injury.
- Plasma comprises approximately half of whole blood. It is the liquid that floats the cells throughout your body and contains nutrients and proteins. Plasma is often used for burn victims and to help stop bleeding.
- Cryoprecipitate makes up a small portion of the plasma and is harvested through a freeze-thaw process. Cryoprecipitate is used in open-heart surgeries and in patients with hereditary clotting deficiencies.
- Platelets help the blood to clot and are transfused in heart surgery, cancer treatments or bleeding problems. There is less than one ounce of platelets in a pint of whole blood.
- Red cells make up almost half of our whole blood. There are about 150 billion red cells in one ounce of blood. Red cells carry oxygen from the lungs throughout the body and are given to patients with severe anemia.

BLOOD TYPE FACTS	YOUR BLOOD CAN GO TO:				
	YOUR BLOOD TYPE	% OF U.S. POPULATION	BLOOD TYPE	% OF PATIENTS	YOU CAN RECEIVE
	O Positive (O+)	38%	O+, A+, B+, AB+	84%	O+, O-
	O Negative (O-)	7%	All types	100%	O-
	A Positive (A+)	34%	A+, AB+	37%	O+, O-, A+, A-
	A Negative (A-)	6%	A+, A-, AB+, AB-	44%	O-, A-
	B Positive (B+)	9%	B+, AB+	12%	O+, O-, B+, B-
	B Negative (B-)	2%	B+, B-, AB+, AB-	15%	O-, B-
	AB Positive (AB+)	3%	AB+	3%	All types
	AB Negative (AB-)	1%	AB+, AB-	4%	O-, A-, B-, AB-

Less than 5% of the eligible population donates blood. In the U.S., as many as 40,000 units of red blood cells are needed daily. More than 23 million units of blood components are transfused every year.