



Underage Donor Informed Consent

Attention Parent or Guardian:

I hereby give my consent for my minor child, who is at least 16 years of age, to donate his/her blood or blood components to Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center.

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center will provide me with any abnormal test results or other protected health information that may be obtained or maintained regarding my child's health status.

Parent/Guardian Name (print):	Date: / /
Parent/Guardian Signature:	

Minor's Full Legal Name (print):
Date of Birth (DOB): / /

For Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center Staff Only

Verbal Consent:

	/ /
Minor's Full Legal Name (print)	DOB

Name of Parent/Guardian who provided consent

	/ /	
Telephone number	Date of call	Time of call

Staff obtaining verbal consent – print name	ID Number

**IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE DONATION
 PROCESS IS ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM.
 PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.**



General Information About Blood Donation

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center makes a determination as to the suitability of all blood donors based on a physical examination (wellness check), donor interview, and disease testing. During the donor interview, sensitive and personal information is obtained from the donor.

Blood Donor Suitability

The safety of both the donor and the patient who might receive the blood transfusion is our most important consideration. Steps in the blood donation process include:

- Basic donor requirements of:
 - Being at least **16 years of age** on the day of the donation
 - **Weighing at least 110 lbs, or 120 lbs for all 16-year-old donors, 120 lbs for 17-18-year-old female donors, and 115 lbs for 17-18-year-old male donors**, on the day of the donation
 - **Eating a well-balanced meal** before donating
 - **Drinking plenty of fluids** before donating
- Bringing a **valid picture ID** prior to donation.
- Donor eligibility will be established in a confidential interview. This interview includes questions about the donor's medical history and activities that may expose a person to infectious agents such as the viruses that cause HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, or West Nile Virus (WNV).
- Checking the donor's heart rate, temperature, blood pressure, and hematocrit level (the ratio of red blood cells to the total volume of blood) / hemoglobin level (a protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen throughout the body).
- Using new, sterile, and disposable equipment to draw approximately one pint of blood.
- Resting and snacking after the donation.
- Testing for hepatitis B and C, Chagas, WNV, HIV, certain other infectious diseases, and syphilis.

If you have any questions about testing or for a complete list of tests performed, please contact Medical Services at 713-791-6612.

To report any subsequent issues related to the donation, please contact the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center at 713-790-1200.

Adverse Reactions to Donating Blood

While the blood donation process is normally a pleasant experience, it is possible short-term side effects may occur such as dizziness, skin irritation, bruising, or fainting. Although unlikely, it is also possible for bruising around the vein, an infection, or nerve damage to develop during or after your donation. On rare occasions, more severe reactions can occur with complications that are more serious.

To prevent the onset of an adverse reaction, it is important that you follow the recommendations to rest, drink juice, and eat a snack immediately after your donation. In addition, eating a full meal within the 4 hours before your donation will help you feel strong after donating; drinking water and juices before and after donating, helps your body to replenish lost fluids.

