



Editorial

Blood Donation in Bangladesh

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Blood donation is a holy work. Each blood donor is a sign of bravery in the society. After invention of blood group by Carl Landsteiner in 1901 people started blood donation. A man can die if blood given to him if not of same group. For this invention he got the novel prize in 1930. A man or a Women of age 18-60 who is disease free can donate blood Generally in every 3 months after. To draw one bag blood 10-12 mins are required. Blood is needed to save life. It is also collected from a safe donor. Voluntary donors are seeming to be a safe donor. Only 30% of total demand are coming from voluntary donors. An adult has about 5 litres of blood in his body. In one donation one can donate 300-450 ml of blood.

Blood donation have got no bed or side effects. A simple vertigo can happen after donation which is removed automatically afterwards. The volume recovers within 6 hours after taking a glass of water and the hemoglobin lost reappears after 6 days. Donor can do normal works after 15 mins rest. Regular blood donation has some good effects in health such as reduction of cholesterol & control of blood pressure. As a result, the chance of heart attack reduces. It also refreshes the mind. Whether one is bearing Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, Jaundice, Malaria, Syphilis, HIV or AIDS can know without cost. Who donates blood regularly in the blood bank, blood banks come forward in his need.

According to WHO, in developed countries 40 people donate blood out of 1000 people and it is 4 out of 1000 in developing countries. Wish of donating blood is the main thing. Donating blood will make you ill- is a superstition. Nothing is there in blood donation to make body ill or weak. So, donate blood as much as you can. Volunteers should come forward to make blood banks in Thana Health Complex taking all sorts of anti-corruption measure in mind.

14th June is the international blood donor's day. Government and non-government organizations have taken many programs. By health Directorate General voluntary blood donation, presentation to blood donors and donation to thalassemia patient without charge was done successfully. In BSMMU, the Transfusion Medicine department has completed the programme of group determination without charge, honor to the voluntary donors, donation to the thalassemia patient without charge and open

seminar. Quantum foundation has done one rally from National Museum to National press club and mass honour to blood donors. Voluntary donors are the safe donors for which total countrywide programme was commonly held as voluntary blood donation. The common slogan with which all the experts were keeping in mind was the theme of World Health Organization (WHO). The theme of WHO was – “Donating blood is an act of solidarity. join the effort and save lives”. All the people of our country were supporting this slogan and celebrated the world blood donor day keeping this slogan in their soul.

Celebrating the day on 14th August, 2022 government & non-government institution has taken many awareness work schedules. Safe blood transfusion and thalassemia management cell of Directorate general of health informed that 9 lakh bags of blood are needed yearly to treat the ailing patients. In the whole country 223 blood banks are there to serve the patients in government account. Among them 99 are in the status of district blood banks and rest 124 are there in the supervision of Upazila level. In divisional, district and medical college level, in the year 2019 only 64 patients, in the year 2020 about 47 patients and in the year 2021 about 28 patients, i.e., total 134 donors were found positive for AIDS in their blood in the last three years. At the same time 16910 donors found positive for Hepatitis-B and 847 donors found positive for Hepatitis-C. In a separate statistics 2,212 donors found positive for sexually transmitted syphilis.

From a reliable source it was informed that Red Crescent Society, Quantum, Shandhani, Badhan, Thalassemia foundation and Thalassemia Samity are serving as non-government blood transfusion centers recognized by the directorate general of health. The number of these government recognized non-government centers are 162. But so many blood banks are serving as transfusion center which are not supervised by Directorate General of Health Service of Bangladesh. The blood from these unrecognized blood centers is not safe. They are earning black money by supplying red blood. They are remaining out of touch due to lack of supervision by the competent authority. Recently some of these transfusion centers are sealed by the checking programmers of Directorate General of Health. Many of the diseases are transmitted by these unrecognized blood transfusion centers. A patient

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suffering from thalassemia with AB (+)ve blood group was saying that regularly getting blood is a very difficult task but getting safe blood is much more difficult.

Safe blood transfusion program distributed 9,41,172 bags of blood after collection in the year 2019. But it stands upto 6,62,757 bags in the year 2020 due to Covid-19 situation. In the year 2021 it has raised upto 7,71,708 bags. 74% of those donors are male.

There is no alternative to blood. In operations, Trauma, complicated pregnancy, Accidents, in low hemoglobin, blood is needed. In Transfusion of blood five tests are done before blood & its component transfusion. There are 13 blood banks in the Army. For monitoring all of blood bank personals a training should be introduced and for the regular supervision an authority should be formed other than Directorate General of Health services of Bangladesh.