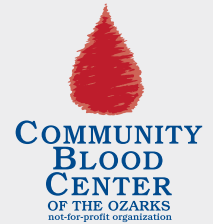




universal donor DIGEST



Celebrating the lifesaving potential of type O-Negative blood donors and AB Plasma donors

September 2017

The Universal Donors of Plasma

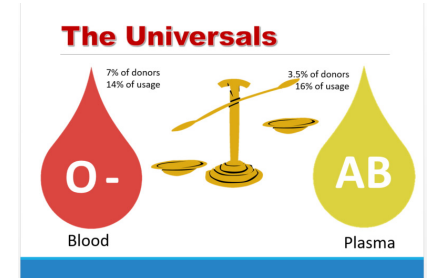
If you are a donor of AB Plasma, you are a “Universal Donor” because your plasma can be given to anyone regardless of the recipient’s blood type. You’re a rare bunch – only about 4 percent of the population – but your role in emergencies is important.

What is plasma? It is the pale, yellow liquid part of whole blood. It transports nutrients, hormones, and proteins to the parts of the body. Plasma contains water, salt, enzymes, and important components such as immunoglobulins (antibodies), clotting factors, and the proteins albumin and fibrinogen.

Why is plasma needed? Patients need plasma to increase overall blood volume, or to treat hemophilia, clotting disorders, liver failure, or severe infections. It’s also used to treat premature infants, or those suffering from shock, trauma, or burns. In addition, both adults and children fighting cancer sometimes need plasma.

How often can you donate plasma? Every 28 days.

Remember – the plasma already on the shelves is the first to be used in emergency situations. Help us make sure our 40 local hospitals are ready when patients are in need. Thank you, Lifesavers!



What Inspired This New O-Negative Donor?



Shawn Jones, of Springfield, Missouri, knew his blood type from an early age. “My mom told me, when I was a kid, ‘Your blood type is O-Negative, in case you ever need to know.’ Then I had a dog tag that I had made and wore when I was in elementary school, and it said that I was O-Negative. When I was running around with friends playing GI Joe, I remember saying, ‘I need my dog tags!’”

Yet he did not donate blood until September 2017, at age 44. What held him back? “I am completely needle-phobic,” he confessed. “But it wasn’t as harrowing as I thought it would have been.”

A recent experience helped Shawn make the decision to give blood. “There was a thief in my storage area, and he pulled a gun on me,” he said. A car chase ensued, with the suspect ramming a vehicle Shawn uses for his business, 417 Mowing. Trapped, unable to open the truck’s door, Shawn had a 911 dispatcher on his cell phone when the suspect got out of his vehicle. “He was standing on the side of the road, pointing a gun at me.”

While Shawn got out of the experience unharmed and the suspect will soon be sentenced, the thought did cross his mind later that if he had been shot and needed blood, it was up to his small percentage of fellow O-Negative donors to help him out.

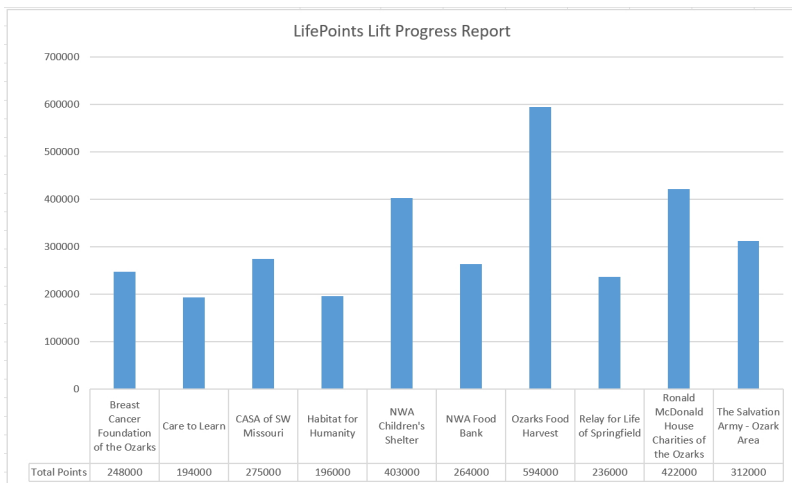
What’s the next step for this new blood donor? He’s working with CBCO to hold a blood drive for the networking group he belongs to, Springfield Executive Breakfast Club. These business owners will give blood at CBCO’s Thomson Donor Center in Springfield December 18-31, 2017, as a way to give back to the community. (If your group would like details on holding a blood drive at one of CBCO’s donor centers, contact Patrick Mulheron at 417-227-5000 or email mulheronp@cbco.org.)

“I’m very selfish now and I think everyone with O-Negative should donate for me,” Shawn laughed before he added, “and I’ll do the same.”

Have You Given Your LifePoints a Lift?

As our Universal Donors, those who give their O-Negative blood or AB Plasma accumulate CBCO's LifePoints rewards at a swifter pace than other donors. (The details are available on our website [HERE](#).) LifePoints rewards are our way to thank you for donating. You may be redeem them through your account on our donor portal [HERE](#) and receive gift cards for fun places like Starbucks, Andy's Frozen Custard, Amazon, Dairy Queen, or Chase Visa.

Feeling extra generous? Would you like to help even more people in our community? Please consider donating your LifePoints to one of our 10 LifePoints Lift partner agencies. When you choose to do so, we'll convert your LifePoints to cash and send it to the non-profit of your choice. The ten non-profits are listed in this graphic, along with information on how many LifePoints they have received so far during the program's year. More information about our LifePoints Lift program is available [HERE](#). Thanks, Lifesavers!



Ready to find a mobile blood drive or donor center to give blood or plasma?

Click [HERE](#) to see a list of our donor center locations and spots to click to search for mobile blood drives by city, county, or zip code. You can even make an appointment from that page.

Promotions & Events

Kickin' It Country Blood Drive

Friday, October 6, 2017

Thomson Donor Center in Springfield only.

Participants receive a free CBCO campfire mug and campfire vittles (hot dogs, chips, and soda).

Drawings for prizes from Dixie Stampede, Branson's Famous Baldknobbers and PFI Western Wear.

Holiday Hugs

Mon., November 20 – Mon., November 27, 2017

Apheresis only. Sign up to make 3 donations within specific dates. Complete all 3 and get 2,000 bonus LifePoints. Only at Thomson Donor Center in Springfield and Springdale Donor Center.

Holiday Hero

Wednesday, November 22, 2017

Donor centers only. Commit to 3 donations during specific dates. Complete all 3 and get 3,000 bonus LifePoints. Donor centers only.

Battle Line Rivalry Blood Drive

Wednesday, November 22, 2017

Donor centers only. Participants receive free T-shirt. Arkansas vs. Missouri football game.

Holiday Hours

Wednesday, November 22, 2017

Thomson Donor Center in Springfield, Bentonville, and Springdale open 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Joplin open 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 23, 2017

All mobile blood drives and donor centers closed.

Holiday Hours

Friday, November 24, 2017

All mobile blood drives and donor centers closed, with the exception of Thomson Donor Center in Springfield being open for apheresis by appointment only from 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.