



### **Volunteer for Blood donation**

The RCSC in collaboration with the Ministry of Health would like to invite Civil Servants to volunteer for blood donation. This call is made as the global pandemic of COVID-19 has the potential to reduce the supply of blood and blood components and adversely affect blood transfusion services. The experience with outbreaks of coronaviruses suggests that there will be significant impact on blood supplies through reduced blood donation in the blood banks which ultimately leads to the severe shortage of blood stock in the blood banks. This situation will be aggravated as we also enter Dengue and Malaria season in the southern foothills.

Healthy civil servants can join this call to maintain uninterrupted blood supply in our hospitals. By volunteering, you are contributing immeasurably to the nation in such unexceptional time. We request interested Civil Servants to register/sign up via this google form (Link:<https://forms.gle/c58hNvVg1qhKrLqg7>). You will be listed as donors and the Ministry of Health will reach out with location and date and time.

**Location for blood donation-** Yangchenphug Higher Secondary School (Conference Hall) is identified as a blood donation camp site, for donors in Thimphu. Similarly, the Ministry will arrange suitable locations for other Dzongkhags, which will be communicated to you after registration. For those in Thimphu, after registration in the above link you can choose to seek an appointment with the blood bank using the link <https://www.bloodsafety.gov.bt/> or wait for further communication from RCSC or MoH.

For your information, the campaign will be operated by Blood Transfusion Service personnel who are skilled in infection control practices and standard procedures are put in place to avoid the spread of the COVID-19.

**We request you to kindly note the following as you register:**

1. The person having FLU-like symptoms, other Medical Condition, Pregnant, Breastfeeding mother, under medication, having travel history should not be donating blood.
2. Blood transfusion staff will triage (screening for the signs/symptoms for COVID-19) the individuals. Also, the physical distancing precautions will be practiced.

For further clarification, please contact RCSC at 322491 (Ext. 218 or 128)/ 17242928(Roshmi Rana) or MoH at 77376960 (Pema Yangchen).

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