



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.

Check one of the following:

- I wish to honor the privacy of my minor child to his or her protected health information; therefore, I waive my right of access to any test results or other protected health information that Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center may obtain or maintain regarding my child's health status. Further, I hereby give my consent for my child to control access to his/her protected health information that is maintained at Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center.

- I request that Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center 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: / /
Date of Birth: / /	



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 122 lbs for age 16 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, which 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 hemoglobin level (the oxygen-carrying protein in red cells).
- 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, or Dr. Susan Rossmann at 713-791-6275.

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.