

Donating blood for your own use

What is autologous donation?

When prescribed by a physician or healthcare provider, it is the process of donating one's own blood for transfusion during a scheduled surgical procedure.

Are there special criteria?

Memorial Blood Centers collects autologous donations by doctor's prescription only. Donations must be made at least three days prior to the anticipated use.

In addition, you must meet the following donor eligibility requirements:

- feel healthy and well
- weigh 85 lbs. or more
- no antibiotics for 24 hours
- hemoglobin greater than or equal to 11.0 g/dL

How long does it take to donate?

The entire process takes approximately 45 minutes with actual blood donation time of about 10 minutes.

What happens to my donation after I give?

Once donated, the blood is stored at the hospital until needed. Many tests are performed, including those that test for a variety of infectious diseases. You will be notified if a test result impacts your health. Abnormal test results are reported to the physician who ordered the autologous donation and the hospital transfusion service where your surgery is scheduled.

How do I make an appointment for autologous blood donation?

Once you have obtained a prescription from your physician, please call 1-888-GIVE-BLD (888-448-3253) to schedule an appointment.

Appointments can be scheduled at the following donor centers:

- **Coon Rapids** 3200 Main St., Ste. 120
Wells Fargo Bldg
- **Duluth** 5115 Burning Tree Rd.
Burning Tree Plaza
- **Hibbing** 1200 E. 25th St.
Fairview Plaza
- **St. Paul** 737 Pelham Blvd.
Hwy 280 & University
- **Superior, WI** Essentia Health
3500 Tower Ave.
St. Mary's Hospital
- **Virginia** 901 9th St. N.
Essentia Health-Virginia
- **Woodbury** 1625 Radio Dr.
City Centre Bldg



An autologous transfusion is the infusion of a patient's own blood. Memorial Blood Centers collects the self-donation of blood only when prescribed by a patient's physician or healthcare provider.



**Memorial
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