



The Children's Hospital

Affiliated with  
University of Colorado at Denver  
and Health Sciences Center

## The Blood Donor Center The Directed Donation Option

As a service to families, the option of arranging directed donations for their child is available through the Blood Donor Center located on the first floor of the Administrative Pavilion. Appointments are encouraged. Directed donations incur additional fees.

- All blood units must be tested. Donating 3 days before surgery or the anticipated need for transfusion is recommended.
- Only compatible units will be transfused. The TCH Blood Bank will type and test each blood unit. Being related to a child does not guarantee compatibility.
- The patient's medical record number will be required by the Donor Center to direct units.
- Directed donations are for non-emergency transfusion needs only. TCH has a Blood Bank prepared to meet the transfusion needs of patients.
- Blood units expire 35 days from the day they are drawn.
- Infants four months old or younger having cardiac surgery require units drawn within 5 days of their surgery.
- Directed donations that are not compatible with the intended recipient's blood type are placed in the general blood inventory.
- Directed donors must meet all the requirements of routine blood donors except the donation interval. Instead of waiting 56 days between donations, a directed donor may donate again in 3 days so long as his/her red cell count remains above the mandatory guideline.
- The Donor Center cannot guarantee that any patient will receive only directed units or that directed units will be transfused in a specified order.
- The Donor Center will assume that donors who present as directed donors for a specific patient are known to the family/patient and approved by them as acceptable directed donors.

Please call us with your questions or to make appointments. Our phone number is 720-777-4315. The Donor Center is open on Monday from 9am to 5pm. From Tuesday through Friday, we are open from 6:30am until 3pm.