



NPO Number: 049066NPO
NPC Registration No. 2000/026390/08

Head Office or Zone
1 Constantia Boulevard
Constantia Kloof Ext 22, 1709

Postal Address: Private Bag X14, Weltevreden Park, 1715
Tel: 011 761 9000 **Fax:** 0866747666
Email: customerservice@sanbs.org.za

The SANBS urges you to save a life today

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

7 NOVEMBER 2019

"It really is an awesome thing to do," says blood recipient, Sunita Morar. She received blood in August 2019 due to a hemorrhage during labor. Thanks to a blood donor, Sunita was able to survive and be a mother to her newborn baby.

Sunita - and thousands of other patients who incur trauma related incidents have a second chance at life because of the generous donations made by South Africans.

The South African National Blood Service (SANBS) is urgently calling on Group O and donors to donate blood to meet demand.

Scheduled blood drives at universities, businesses and on other sites yield a significant amount of the units of blood collected annually and although the SANBS has systems in place to minimize the effects of shortages, there has been an increasingly high demand for blood in hospitals leaving Group O blood stocks at a low.

As a result of the low blood stocks, the SANBS is appealing to members of the public to visit the nearest donor center as soon as they can.

"We are experiencing a high demand of blood from hospitals and are in serious need of blood donations across the country. Our Group O blood stocks are approaching a low. We are appealing to all South Africans to donate a unit of blood in aid of those who may need blood or blood products during this period," says Silungile Mlambo, SANBS Chief Marketing Officer.

Group O is considered the universal blood group because anyone — regardless of blood type — can receive type O blood without risking a transfusion reaction.

Mlambo says, "The best gift you can give anyone is the gift of life. We know that South Africans have huge hearts and we call on them to fully embrace the spirit of Ubuntu by giving their blood donation today".

The SANBS has planned various blood drives around the country with extended hours and additional weekend blood drives to ensure a stable supply of blood during this period. However, it is only possible to meet the demand with the help of regular and committed blood donors. Blood donations go beyond just the person who receives blood – its' not just blood, its saving a nation.

Universal Blood Type:



sanbs.org.za
Toll free 0800 11 9031

Donates toEveryone

Receives from

Board of Directors: Executives: J Louw (CEO), J Thomson (Medical Director) Non-Executives: G Simelane (Chairman), R Brand, W Gumede, P Knox, M Malebye, V Moodley, A Ramalho, R Theunissen,
Company Secretary: M Luthuli



NPO Number: 049066NPO
NPC Registration No. 2000/026390/08

Visit www.sanbs.org.za or contact 0800 11 9031 to find out where you can donate blood this festive season. Follow us on Twitter (@theSANBS), Facebook (@SANBS) and Instagram (@thesanbs).

ENDS

About the SANBS

The South African National Blood Service (SANBS) is a section 21 company, Non-Profit Organisation, which provides a vein-to-vein blood transfusion service in 8 of the 9 provinces in South Africa, excluding Western Cape.

The organization has a donor base of approximately 500,000. The SANBS has two testing centers; one in Johannesburg and the other in Durban, which are supplemented by seven blood-processing centers around the country. There are approximately 90 blood banks serving over 1000 hospitals and private clinics in South Africa. The organization also offers specialised laboratory services, for example, tissue immunology, cytogenetic and proficiency testing.

The South African National Blood Service (SANBS) is dependent on a healthy donor population who is willing and able to donate blood and blood products to meet the blood requirements of the country.

Universal Blood Type:



Donates toEveryone

Receives from

sanbs.org.za

Toll free 0800 11 9031

Board of Directors: Executives: J Louw (CEO), J Thomson (Medical Director) **Non-Executives:** G Simelane (Chairman), R Brand, W Gumede, P Knox, M Malebye, V Moodley, A Ramalho, R Theunissen,
Company Secretary: M Luthuli