

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WOMACK ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA 28310

MCXC-CO

9 Nov 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Hospital Commander's Policy #25 - Certificate of Appreciation awarded for Platelet Donations

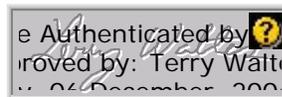
General: The Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) is a Tri Service Program comprised of the Army, Navy and Air Force. The program was developed to provide blood products to service members and their families worldwide. Management of blood and blood products extends from CONUS/OCONUS to the battlefield. While this is a joint program, each service maintains its own blood program. The blood is collected at the Fort Bragg Blood Donor Center (BDC) located in building 8-2807, Scott Street.

1. The amount of blood and blood products needed at Fort Bragg is based upon the requirements of the Womack Army Medical Center (WAMC), the contingency bloodstocks required to support deploying units, and the requirements of the ASBP. All donations are accepted on a volunteer basis.
2. The Fort Bragg Mobile team currently travels to Military Installations to collect whole blood. Due to the perishable nature of blood products (RBC's expire in 42 days, platelets expire in 5 days) there is a continuous need to recruit new donors.
3. Platelets donations are completed at the Blood Donor Center by appointment. Due to the short shelf life of platelets, there is a continuous need for platelet donations. Platelet transfusions are used to improve blood clotting function in a wide variety of patients, including those with cancer, traumatic injuries, and peri-operative bleeding.
4. Policy
 - a. All soldiers, Department of Army (DA) civilians, non-appropriated fund employees, and family members will be given an equal opportunity to contribute to this essential program. Participation in Fort Bragg Blood Donor Program will be on a strictly voluntary basis.

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- b. The platelet donation process takes approximately 90 minutes. Blood is drawn from the donor's arm and processed through a, computer-controlled machine to remove "platelets". The plasma, white blood cells and red blood cells are then returned to the donor.
- c. All volunteers will receive a Certificate of Achievement after the first donation and every 3rd donation thereafter. Soldiers will receive a Certificate of Achievement (IAW AR 600-8-22) which can be used for promotion points. Department of the Army Civilians will receive their certificate (IAW 672-20) up on request.



TERRY WALTERS
COL, MC
Commanding

Distribution:

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