

**A research on knowledge and attitude regarding blood donation during  
Pandemic- Covid 19**

**Mrs.Reema Parekh,**

Assistant Professor, S.S.Agrawal college of Commerce and Management, Affiliated to  
V.N.S.G.U, Surat.

**Dr. Jaya Vadhvani,**

Assistant Professor, S.S.Agrawal college of Commerce and Management Affiliated to  
V.N.S.G.U, Surat.

**Abstract**

In this Covid-19 situation which is globally spread, accessibility of blood is a significant worry to the general public. Various challenges have been hampering unshakable blood blessing in this period. The aim of this paper is to examine the awareness as well as attitude of people regarding blood donation during crisis of covid-19 for this purpose descriptive study was conducted through structured questionnaire of hundred samples of South Gujarat Region and through analysis it is found that major reason for not donating blood in this pandemic is the fear of getting corona. Major respondents have no idea about the facts and services provided for safe blood donation. In fact the study reveals that there is no relation between education qualification and awareness about blood donation.

**Keywords:** Blood Donation, Covid -19, Impact on attitude, Awareness

**Introduction**

"More blood, more life," this was the topic for World Blood Donor Day 2011 on the 14 of June to accentuate the basic requirement for additional individuals everywhere throughout the world to become lifelines by giving blood normally. In view of reports from 173 nations to WHO, around 93 million blood givers are giving yearly. Given blood can be lifesaving for people who have lost a lot of blood in view of genuine mishaps, new clinical and surgeries, common clashes, and military wars just as for patients who have become seriously iron deficient as a result of genuine haematological ailments or medicines, for example, disease treatment. Along these lines, accessibility of blood is a significant worry to the general public. In this Covid-19 situation which is globally spread, increased in the degree of mindfulness and uplifting demeanour (a way of looking and behaving) towards blood gift is the most noteworthy need of all Red Cross institution. The underlying advance for accomplishing this objective is to perform far reaching contemplates estimating the current circumstance of mindfulness, information, convictions, and both positive and negative perspectives of the populace towards blood gift.

Examining people awareness, attitude towards blood donation has a significant effect on the community related to this matter either authentically or in indirect manner and their available information about donation of blood which cannot be produced except human body in this pandemic.

The WHO appraises that blood gift by 1% of the populace is commonly the base to meet a country's most fundamental requirement for blood. For India's situation, according to the information of 2016-17, there was a deficiency of 1.9 million units (or 15%) versus the WHO standard.

According to Dr **Zarine S Bharucha**, Chairperson of the Federation of Bombay Blood Banks & **Suryaprabha Sadasivan**, Vice-President and Healthcare Policy Practice Lead, Chase India, at no other time, in the only remaining century has the world needed to manage a pandemic like Corona virus (COVID-19) which has just guaranteed near 115,000 lives, tormenting near 19 lakh individuals all around and has pushed the whole world near the very edge of a social and financial vulnerability. Other than its effect on general wellbeing, social government assistance and economy, such pandemics cause gigantic inadvertent blow-back to wellbeing frameworks; unfriendly wellbeing impacts because of blood-lack being a critical one. Vital contribution in flare-ups of such diseases suggest that there will be adverse impact on blood availability due to diminished blood blessing. Blood blessings have definitely reduced in light of the execution of social isolating, withdrawal of blood drives and low supplier turnout inferable from fears including corona virus. Nevertheless, various challenges have been hampering unshakable blood blessing in this period. Directly off the bat, givers are not proactively going to blood gift focuses or crisis centres due to the fear of contracting Corona virus from such places which could be introduced to sullied patients. Also, lockdown has restricted advancement of staff at blood variety centres and of givers which has declined the situation. Considering, beginning in the moderately late past, there was restricted consideration among many blood blessing focuses and revolves around essential success and social confining shows to facilitate blood blend without making any security risks for work force and supporters.



# BLOOD DONATIONS FALL SHARPLY AMID COVID-19

## BLOOD CAMPS



## BLOOD DONATIONS



SOURCE: E-RAKT KOSH, NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION

Blood contributors in India, as over the globe, incorporate three general classes' voluntary donors, replacement donors and professional donors. Most gifts are an after effect of substitution gifts, which are no remunerated gifts, gave by the family members of patients who need blood either on earnest premise or for foreseen transfusion during arranged medical procedures. Proficient benefactors or professional donors are the individuals who give blood in return for cash. Such gifts, dishonest and unlawful, flourish because of lack of intentional givers and absence of education and obliviousness of the individuals who need blood yet abstain from giving it away. Likewise in specific situations, substitution and expert contributors might be constrained to give blood, regardless of having wellbeing conditions precluding them from such gift. In addition, they don't assist us with maintaining a supply of blood for emergency circumstances and don't accommodate blood of generally uncommon blood gatherings, along these lines, demonstrating the need and significance of intentional blood gifts. Deliberate contributors are non-remunerated benefactors and give blood intentionally, with no affectations, for example, cash or some other substitute of cash. Such gifts are helpful to society by not just giving sufficient nonstop accessibility during eminent circumstances, yet additionally in light of the fact that they are a wellspring of safe blood.

Major factors affecting attitude and awareness of blood donation:

- **Inhibitions:** Inhibitions means an inclination that makes one hesitant and incapable to act in a loose and natural, common manner. There was a critical distinction in information and furthermore a few misguided judgments that repress to give blood, especially in the non-clinical gathering.
- **Fear of fainting:** Fear is a vital limit to blood blessing, particularly among new providers and young donors, some people with a fear of blood or needles experience a hidden addition and a short time later a sudden drop in their heartbeat, which can result in fainting.
- **Inadequate information:** Most significant components which caused the possibility of not having the option to give blood were identified with the absence of data about state of being or physical fitness. Giving blood will not affect the immune system. But people feel that they will lose weight, leads to fever, sexual failure, increased blood pressure, generating spasm etc.
- **Fear of infection:** The most pervasive misguided judgment among the respondents was that the blood donation has hazard for contracting contamination like HIV or Hepatitis B&C disease.

Shobhini Rajan, the head of National Blood Transfusion Council, said that a correspondence was gotten from a couple of accomplices busy with administering blood centres and blood transfusion organizations concerning difficulties in keeping up acceptable blood spares during the hour of lockdown. According to the administration information accessible on the National Blood Transfusion Council site, the complete gave blood has dropped from 38,189 units in February to 26,741 units in March.

Further, just 3,037 units have been gotten in the initial 10 days of April. The quantity of blood gift camps has additionally descended from 473 in February to 46 in April up until this point. The corona virus outbreak has made exceptional difficulties the blood donation center flexibly. As indicated by Indian Red Cross Society's week by week update as of June 4, blood units gathered were 99 while joined issues were 216.

As showed by World Health Organization standards, a country requires blood units comparable to one percent of its masses. Authorities acknowledge that as indicated by these measures India is presently far behind, anyway the lockdown has bothered it even. Specialists accept that basic COVID-19 patients may require blood too, and diminishing stocks may add to the hazard. The main plan of action left is to take blood straightforwardly from the giver and move it to the patient. The technique is called Unbanked Directed Blood Transfusion (UDBT), which is an illicit practice in India under the Drug and Cosmetics Rules ordered in 1945. The principles approve the assortment of blood just from authorized blood donation centres.

### **Rules for blood gift during corona virus pandemic**

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has discharged a warning for wilful blood gifts during the novel corona virus pandemic. Covid-19 don't spread through blood, anyway fast approaching promoters must keep up hand tidiness. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has orbited a standard for blood variety.

Based on those rules, here are a couple of realities about blood transfusion during COVID-19 that you should know:

1. Clinical affiliations and the WHO have encouraged strong people to continue giving blood during the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. There has been no reported occurrence of any one contracting coronavirus during the blood blessing or blood transfusion process.
3. Donor won't be pursued for COVID-19 going before giving blood. In any case, your temperature will be checked and all the standard system will be followed.

4. Donor will be drawn closer to protect up detachment and use sanitizer. You should hold quickly to the gauges of social expelling.
5. If donor have tried positive for COVID-19 or have interacted with a positive case, you should cease from giving blood.
6. Donor can utilize e-Rakt Kosh to get passes that will permit you to step out of the house during lockdown to give the blood.
7. If donor test positive for COVID-19 inside 14 days of giving the blood, you should educate the blood camp specialists.
8. 24\*7 helpline administration by Indian Red Cross is accessible and the numbers are 011-23359379, 93199 82104, 93199 82105. Donor can approach these numbers to give the blood or in the event that you know somebody who is in the need.
  - That being stated, on the off chance that you are going for blood gift, follow these means:
    - Practice hand sanitisation.
    - Avoid contacting your face with unsanitised hands.
    - Always wear a cover.
    - After getting back, put on something else and, if conceivable, wash up as well.
    - Steam your face and nasal section, just to maintain a strategic distance from contamination.
    - Try drinking home grown decoctions consistently, regardless of whether you are remaining at home.

### **Research Methodology**

The basic purpose of the study was to know the knowledge as well as attitude of people regarding blood donation during crisis of covid-19 for this purpose descriptive study was conducted through structured questionnaire question as consisting of 14 questions ranging from Awareness to attitude was prepared in Google doc form and forwarded among the respondents from different age group. Convenience sampling technique was used for selection of respondents from the South Gujarat region. Data obtained from hundred respondents were analysed and conclusion was drawn from it.

### **Findings**

1. The study reveals that out of the total respondents, 62 have donated the blood till date and among them 48 are males and only 14 are females. So it seems that the majority of the blood donation is done by male that are also from age group 26-39.
2. From the total number of people who have donated, 57 are having educational qualification post-graduation.
3. 55 respondents have not donated in the past 1 year, whereas 18 have donated twice in the last 1 year. Almost those who have donated have donated voluntarily, and 8 people have donated for replacement, only 1 person has donated against money.
4. 88 respondents have not donated in the past 6 months. Study also reveals that there is no relationship between education qualification and blood donation during this pandemic.
5. From the total respondents, 53 respondents are aware that recovered patients can donate blood for plasma therapy, whereas 21 respondents are not sure.
6. Major reason found for not donating blood in this pandemic is the fear of getting corona and rest have no idea.
7. 56 respondents have no idea about the facts and services provided for safe blood donation. In fact the study reveals that there is no relation between education qualification and awareness about blood donation.

## **Conclusion**

The study concludes that respondent attitudes have changed unfavourably towards blood donation because of lack of awareness regarding blood donation facts and facilities provided by the Ministry of Health. Though some have knowledge regarding safety measures taken by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, most of the people fear of getting infected by corona during the blood donation process. Also the paper conclude that the proportion of female in blood donation is very low compared to male, even the education qualification is not relevant anyway with knowledge and awareness regarding blood donation. Looking at the current severe crises of blood, we as a citizenship argument, we need to understand the state problem and need to cooperate either by donating or by promoting awareness through our social networking channels.

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