

Our blood donor centres

Aberdeen Blood Donor Centre

Foresterhill Road, Aberdeen AB25 2ZW

Dundee Blood Donor Centre

Level 8, Ninewells Hospital,
Dundee DD1 9SY

Edinburgh Blood Donor Centre

41 Lauriston Place, Edinburgh EH3 9HB

Glasgow Blood Donor Centre

8 Nelson Mandela Place, Glasgow G2 1BT

I'm interested - how do I sign up?

Speak to a member of staff at your next blood donation, who will be happy to chat you through the next steps.

Alternatively, fill in our Give Platelets form at www.scotblood.co.uk or call us on 0345 90 90 999.

Contact us

t: 0345 90 90 999

e: nss.snbtsequiry@nhs.net

w: scotblood.co.uk

 [givebloodforscotland](https://www.facebook.com/givebloodforscotland)

 [@givebloodscot](https://twitter.com/givebloodscot)

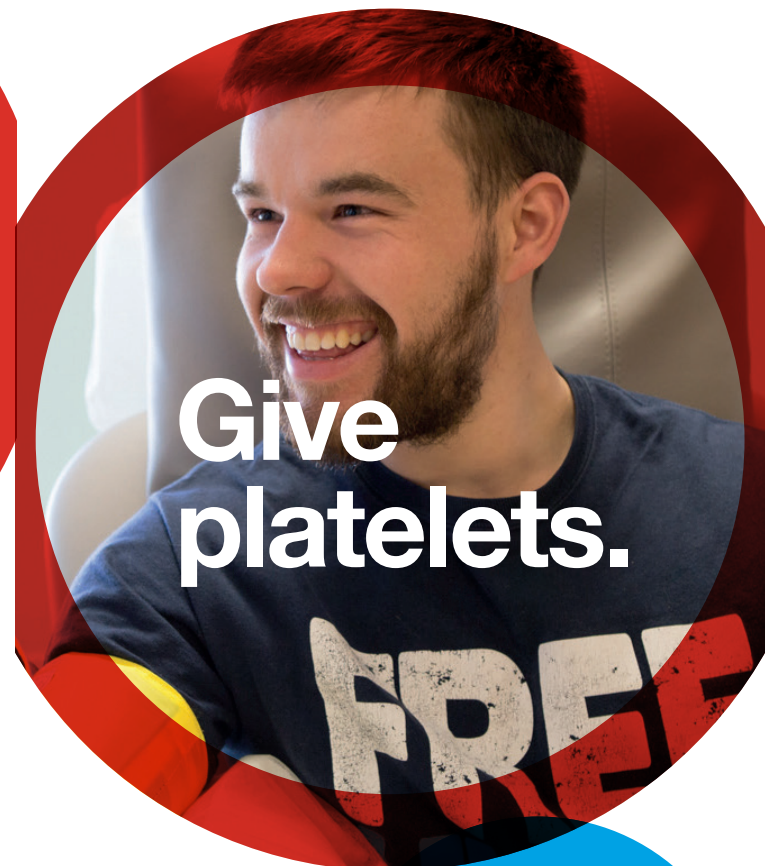
Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service

www.scotblood.co.uk

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SNBTS is a part of NHS National Services Scotland.

NATL 053 02



Give platelets.

What platelets are, and how you can help.



What are platelets?

One of the four main blood components, platelets stop bruising and bleeding. Many of Scotland's patients need platelet transfusions, including cancer and leukaemia patients, premature babies and emergency admissions.

However, platelets can only be stored for seven days, so we're always looking for new donors to keep a steady supply available to Scottish hospitals.

Who can give platelets?

Platelet donors are:

- Usually male. While we have recruited women in the past, we are currently introducing an additional test for new female platelet donors and therefore not recruiting women at present. This may change in the near future.
- Existing blood donors (you must have given blood at least once before).
- Blood group O or A.
- Able to come to your blood donor centre in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh or Glasgow frequently - perhaps as often as every four to six weeks.
- Willing to spare up to 90 minutes each time they give platelets.

What else do I need to know?

- Platelet donation is very similar to giving blood. We use specialist equipment to collect platelets from you and the whole process takes no longer than 90 minutes. This is why we can only collect platelets at our five regional centres.
- Our donors give platelets every four to six weeks, which is a substantial time commitment. A range of morning, late afternoon and Saturday appointments are available at most centres.
- Platelet donors must meet the health criteria for whole blood donation, as well as some additional criteria - for example, your individual platelet count will determine whether you could be a platelet donor.

How platelets save lives

As a newborn baby, Skye Edwards needed platelets as part of her treatment for a mystery illness. Mum Gemma, said:

“Within 24 hours of being born Skye went really downhill; we were told everything was going wrong. Her platelet level was only seven when it should normally be between 150 and 450, and with anything below 20 there's a danger of bleeding out.”

Now, after a total of five platelet transfusions and two blood transfusions, Skye's bone marrow is working as it should be.

“We get to see her grow up, sit, walk, talk, go to school. All of this is possible because someone in Scotland is selfless enough to give up their time for some stranger out there.”

