



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SAN DIEGO BLOOD BANK ISSUES URGENT PLEA
FOR BLOOD DONATIONS**

SAN DIEGO (March 4, 2021) - As local hospitals continue to re-schedule elective surgeries delayed due to COVID-19 and utilize even more blood for stat orders and standard surgeries, San Diego Blood Bank (SDBB) is experiencing critically low blood supply. All blood types are needed.

“We are down to a 1–2-day supply of most types, and it’s best to keep at least a 7-day supply available” said David Wellis, CEO, San Diego Blood Bank. “For various reasons, hospital usage has increased, so we need the community to make an appointment to donate now for local hospital patients that need it.”

San Diego Blood Bank strongly encourages all healthy individuals to donate blood. To be eligible to donate blood, you must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 114 pounds, and be in general good health. **Appointments are required** and available by visiting SanDiegoBloodBank.org or by calling 619-400-8251.

San Diego Blood Bank is currently antibody testing each blood donation as part of their regular testing panel to qualify donations for COVID-19 convalescent plasma. Please note this is not a diagnostic test, and it will not detect active COVID-19 infections or recent exposure. Temperatures will be taken before donors are allowed into facilities and face coverings are required.

About San Diego Blood Bank

SDBB is dedicated to community health by providing a reliable supply of blood to patients in need. Our vision is to further ensure the health of our community by simultaneously delivering related health and wellness education and services and extending into research. SDBB is an independent, 501(c)(3) non-profit that serves hospitals in San Diego, Orange, Imperial and Los Angeles counties with blood transfusion products and reference laboratory services. SDBB currently operates eight local donor centers and 10 bloodmobiles. SDBB’s Cell Therapy Program provides lifesaving stem cell transplants to patients worldwide. For more information about SDBB, visit www.SanDiegoBloodBank.org or connect with us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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