

# National Blood Policy

## Certification of Authorization

The National Blood Transfusion Service (A Bill to provide the regulation and monitoring of blood transfusion services to ensure effective and safe blood supply throughout the country in order to give effect to the National Blood Policy; and for the matters connected there with or incidental there to) published in the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka - Part 11 of September 21st , 2007.

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## **POLICY**

1. The state shall be responsible for the supply of safer blood in the country to assure public health Blood Transfusion Service (BTS) will be implemented
  - a) By the National blood Transfusion Service (NBTS)

And
  - b) By private hospital which are registered under the private Medical Institution Act (Bill) and licensed to operate a Blood Bank (Minimum criteria to obtain license shall be gazette by the Minister of Health)
2. The responsibility of NBTS shall be
  - a. Collection of blood from voluntary, non-remunerated blood donors throughout the country.
  - b. Maintain a regular, adequate stock of blood.
  - c. Screening of collected blood for the following Transfusion Transmitted infections.
    - I. HIV 1 & 2
    - II. Hepatitis B
    - III. Syphilis
    - IV. Malaria
  - d. Processing of blood to blood components
  - e. Storage of blood and blood products
  - f. Issuing of screened blood and blood products to state and private Blood Banks, to be transfused to patients
  - g. Provide training for both state and private Medical Officers (Minimum qualification for training is MBBS)
  - h. Maintenance of standards of NBTC as the Reference Laboratory.
3. Responsibilities of private Blood Banks
  - a. Establish blood storage facilities (Specifications for storage will be provided)
  - b. Obtain blood from provincial Blood Bank (PBB) or Regional Blood Bank (RBB) in the locality and maintain a stock of blood to be used for patients. (comply with maximum surgical blood order schedule)
  - c. To appoint Medical Officer with NBTS training to be appointed to the Blood Bank (in private hospitals where NBTS trained Medical Officers are not available, cross matched blood will be provided by the relevant PBB or RBB until trained medical officers are available)
  - d. Support and encourage a voluntary blood donation system by organizing mobile blood donation programmes in the province to ensure blood safety.
4. State shall charge the cost for each unit of blood or blood product supplied to the private sector. The private sector shall not charge more than what they pay to the NBTS for this purpose. They may however recover charges for additional tests done (other than mandatory e.g. cross matching) if any.
5. NBTS shall accept return blood or blood products from the private Blood Banks.
6. Blood Transfusion Services monitoring committee shall be appointed by secretary, Ministry of health to monitor both state and private BTS. This committee shall include
  - a. Director General of Health Services (DGHS)
  - b. Director/National Blood Transfusion Services
  - c. Director/National SACP

- d. Deputy Director General (Public Health Services)
- e. Deputy Director General (Laboratory Services)
- f. A university professor nominated by the UGC
- g. A hematologist nominated by the college of Hematologists
- h. A physician nominated by the college of physicians
- i. A surgeon nominated by the college of surgeons
- j. A Medical Officer nominee from private Hospital Association
- k. Any other officer nominated by secretary, Ministry of Health

TOR of the committee will be as follows

- I. Issuing of guidelines for
  - ❖ Collection of blood
  - ❖ Screening of blood
  - ❖ Processing of blood
  - ❖ Issuing of blood
  - ❖ Appropriate usage of blood products
- II. Monitoring of BTS
- III. IMake recommendations on any other matter that a direct relevant to Blood Transfusion service