

## What is Double Red Cell Donation?

### ♦ What is it?

Double red cell donation is similar to a whole blood donation, except a special machine is used to allow you to safely donate two units of red blood cells during one donation while returning your plasma and platelets to you.

### ♦ Why should you do it?

Red blood cells are the most frequently used blood component and are needed by almost every type of patient requiring a transfusion. If you meet certain criteria, double red blood cell donation allows you to safely donate two units of red blood cells during one appointment as an automated donation process.

### ♦ How is a Double Red Cell Donation Different?

During your double red cell donation, blood is drawn from one arm and drawn through a sterile, single-use needle set to a machine. The machine separates and collects two units of red cells and then safely returns the remaining blood components, along with saline, back to you through the same arm.

### ♦ The Benefits?

Save time and make your donation go further. Each procedure lets you give more of the product needed by most patients. Double red cell donation takes approximately 30 minutes longer than whole blood donation and you can donate every four months.

Feel better: With all of your platelets and plasma returned to you along with saline, you don't lose the liquid portion of your blood and may feel more hydrated after your donation.

### ♦ Are you eligible to donate?

In addition to meeting other whole blood donor qualifications, you must also meet specific criteria for donating double red cells, especially for hemoglobin, weight and height. This will be discussed at the time of the blood drive.



## NEXT LRJHC BLOOD DRIVE:

March 28th

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

LRJHC Grand Room

## Diabetics can donate!!

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call Robin Crouse, LRJHC 945-5894, ext. 3240

