



ISBT Working Relations

Council of Europe

Within the Council of Europe, a pan European organisation promoting human rights, democracy and the rule of law, the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines and HealthCare is in charge of providing the technical secretariat to the European Committee (Partial Agreement) on Blood Transfusion coordinating activities in the field of blood transfusion.

Representative: Dr. Guy Rautmann

For more information on the EDQM and related transfusion activities click [here](#).

IFBDO

The aims of the Federation are:

Article III - AIMS

- To promote the regular, anonymous, voluntary, non-remunerated, gift of blood in all countries of the world;
- To work towards meeting the needs for high quality human blood and blood products in every country, in co-operation with the competent bodies;
- To ensure that ways and means are applied guaranteeing the safety of blood of both the donor and the receiver;
- To combat all forms of marketing and gain with respect to blood and blood derivatives, under the principle that the human body is inalienable;
- To participate in all studies, activities, discussions or events related either to the organisation of blood transfusion and blood donor associations or to knowledge and research in transfusion techniques;
- To approach, together with the representative group in a country and whenever circumstances require, the national and the international governmental bodies and public opinion with a view to promoting the voluntary, non-remunerated gift of blood, respect for the ethics of donation and respect for the altruism of the blood donor.

To this effect:

- It shall bring together representative groups of voluntary, non-remunerated blood donors in each country, with no political, ethnic or religious bar;
- It shall encourage and support the creation of organisations of voluntary, non-remunerated blood donors in countries where they do not already exist; it shall ensure the promotion of altruism of the voluntary, non-remunerated blood donor;
- it shall promote friendly relations and co-operation through twinning and the establishment of regular ties, among the member organisations;
- it shall take part in international blood transfusion bodies and shall help them and co-operate with them;

- it shall organise world congresses at which, apart from its specific work, scientific and technical subjects related to the gift of blood and blood transfusion are introduced and discussed with the medical body;
- its Executive Council shall represent blood donors on a permanent basis everywhere and ensure their interests are defended.

Representative: Mr. Gianfranco Massaro

IFCR

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

Mission / vision

The International Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. IFRC recognizes that health security is fundamental to global, national and individual development and is committed to capacity building and promoting sustainability. As part of its current Strategy 2020: saving lives, changing minds the IFRC promotes voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation, and advocates for the safe provision of blood and blood products.

The safety and integrity of national blood supplies are fundamental to health security. Blood and blood products are vital for health care and the achievement of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals to:

- reduce child mortality (Goal 4)
- improve maternal health (Goal 5)
- combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases (Goal 6)

Recognizing that voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation provides the foundation for safe and sustainable blood systems, the International Federation has partnered with WHO to create a global framework for action for 100 per cent voluntary blood donation. The aim of the global framework is to eliminate paid or family replacement donation and help shift the responsibility for the provision of blood from patients' relatives (in the case of family replacement donation) to the health care system.

Activities

IFRC supports the establishment of safe and sustainable blood systems through leadership, advocacy and guidance to member societies, in particular via:

- Guidance/training in promoting voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation;
- Organisation of occasional colloquia on blood donor motivation, recruitment and retention;
- Focus on young blood donors and the role of Club 25 programmes in health promotion;
- Co-operation with other international and professional organisations;

Liaison with experts group (GAP - global advisory panel on corporate governance and risk management for blood services in Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies) to assess requests for assistance and to facilitate the finding of resources for technical and professional support.

For more information please click [here](#).

World Health Organization (WHO)

Blood Transfusion Safety, Essential Health Technologies

Representative: Junping Yu

The mission of the WHO Blood Transfusion Safety (BTS) Programme is to enable Member States to ensure provision of universal and equitable access to safe, quality and efficacious blood and blood products for transfusion in medicine, obstetrics, paediatrics, surgery and anaesthesiology, trauma and burns, as part of "Access to quality health care for all" and also to ensure appropriate, effective and safe use of blood and blood products for transfusion.

ISBT has been admitted into official relations with WHO in 1955 as non-governmental organization.

BTS supports WHO Member States through policy advice and technical guidance, advocacy, mentoring, technical support, technology transfer, capacity building, twinning, networking and facilitation of bilateral and multilateral funds, to:

- Raise international awareness on the issues of blood safety and availability, encourage harmonization, collaboration and cooperation of global efforts to ensure blood and blood product safety;
- Develop/strengthen efficient and sustainable national blood programmes with appropriate government commitment and support, national blood policies, plans, legislative and regulatory frameworks, integrated within the health care system;
- Advocate and support the development of nationally coordinated blood transfusion services based on voluntary non-remunerated blood donation, screening of all donated blood, the appropriate use of blood, and good manufacturing practices at all stages of blood collection, testing, storage and distribution;
- Develop norms, standards, strategies, guidelines, tools and materials on policy, planning, legal instruments, technical and sufficiency issues, also relating to the entire blood transfusion process from donor to patient to ensure blood and blood products safety;
- Encourage training for all blood programme staff and the prescribers of blood and blood products to ensure their appropriate use, and also build capacity, through training and mentoring in countries, specifically in the:
 - establishment of cost-effective sustainable nationally coordinated blood services;
 - leadership and management of blood supply systems;
 - financial management systems;
 - risk assessment and management;
 - data and quality management systems: external quality assessment schemes;
 - voluntary non-remunerated blood donation;
 - testing of donated blood for transfusion-transmissible infections and blood group serology;
 - blood components production;
 - blood cold chain;
 - haemovigilance;
 - education and training in blood transfusion;
 - regulation of blood centres and hospital transfusion services;

- and safe and rational use of blood in medicine, obstetrics, paediatrics, surgery and anaesthesiology, trauma and burns and other disciplines.
- Provide scientific and evidence-based guidance on safety, quality, availability and use of blood and blood products;
- Establish a global monitoring mechanism on safe blood and blood products and collect, analyse and disseminate reliable information on blood safety and availability;
- Provide support in achievement of organizational strategic objectives and implementation of WHA resolutions, in particular on blood safety, blood products, HIV prevention, and maternal and child health;
- Promote and implement appropriate operational research and development in the provision and appropriate use of safe blood and blood products.

For more information click [here](#).

Quality and Safety of Blood Products

Representative: Dr. Micha Nubling

For more information click [here](#).