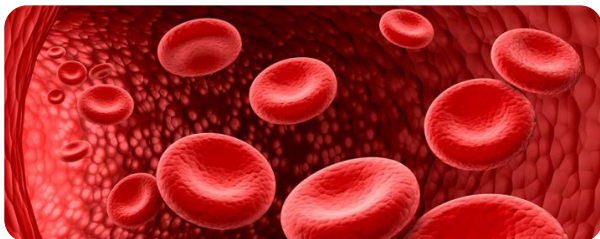


A Guide for Patients and Families

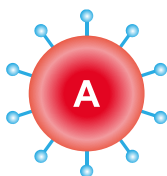
# Understanding Your Blood Type



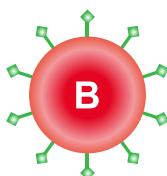
# Four Blood Types



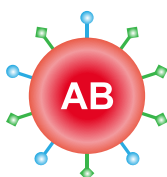
Blood is grouped according to the ABO blood typing system. This method breaks down the blood types into four categories:



**Type A**



**Type B**



**Type AB**



**Type O**

There is also a Rhesus factor group which determines whether you are Rh positive (+) or Rh negative (-) for your blood type.

- ◆ E.g. Types A+, A-, B+, B-, AB+, AB-, O+ and O-

# The Importance of Blood Type

Your blood type is dependent on the blood types that were passed to you from your parents.

Blood typing is a method to find out which specific type of blood you have.

Knowledge of your blood group is important for medical reasons. In case of blood transfusion, it is critical that a person gets the same or compatible blood type.



When a transfusion is given, it is preferable for patients to receive blood and plasma of the same ABO and Rhesus group. Blood transfusion between incompatible groups (such as A+ to O-) causes an immune response which can lead to a very serious transfusion reaction.

**Confused or have any doubts?**



If you require further clarification, feel free to make an appointment with your doctor for a more detailed explanation.



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