

Blood Transfusion



If you are involved in an accident or are taken ill whilst overseas and require a transfusion before you can be evacuated, can you be sure that the blood you will receive meets the standards of your national transfusion services?

The Blood Care Foundation is a charitable, not for profit organisation, registered in the United Kingdom. The Foundation operates a Blood Care Programme, which provides screened blood, in an emergency, to ALC plan members in any part of the world.

The Programme is designed to alleviate the shortages of blood, which occur in many parts of the developing world. These shortages have numerous causes. Amongst the most important are cultural taboos, financial constraints and a high incidence of transfusion transmitted diseases in the donor pool, including diseases such as HIV I and II, hepatitis B and C and malaria.

The provision of blood cover by the Foundation, particularly to expatriates, business travellers and those travelling, ensures that screened supplies of blood are immediately available.

- Providing resuscitation fluids
- Supplying sterile transfusion equipment
- Delivering properly screened blood
- Supporting on-site medical staff with consultation services

Should an emergency occur, please contact +41 (0)22 785 6500. As soon as the 24 hour emergency alarm centre is advised that blood may be needed, the Foundation will contact the treating physician to identify the transfusion requirements. If a transfusion is required, the Foundation will arrange for resuscitation fluids from a Regional Supply Point (RSP) to be delivered by courier to the patient, no matter where in the world they may be.

The Foundation operates a global network of blood banks, enabling it to provide blood to almost any location in the world within 12 - 18 hours, subject to the availability of scheduled air services. The couriers are anaesthetists or paramedics, trained in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and are capable of establishing a transfusion, even in the shocked patient.

Membership of the Blood Care Foundation is provided **FREE to all ALC Health members**

www.alchealth.com/bloodcarefoundation

