



GREYHOUNDS HEALTH AND WELLNESS QUARTERLY



COLLEGE OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE



Photos by [Christopher Zenger](#)

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THE GIFT OF LIFE

There are unfortunate health crises in the life of our beloved pets that merit blood transfusion. While many of us are accustomed to "blood drives" from the American Red Cross during times of extreme need, there is no "Red Cross" to support our 4-legged friends in their time of blood need. The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine Animal Blood Bank/Transfusion Medicine Service is one of the few resources in this region, should a beloved pet require blood products. The Animal Blood Bank obtains the blood products from donor dogs and cats; most of the dogs and cats who donate blood are rescued from desperate situations, and in exchange for this vital service to their kindred, they receive a loving home – whether at foster homes, or after permanent adoption placement. In the past, the blood components were used primarily to treat patients at The Ohio State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital, but now we've expanded the service to distribute blood products to veterinarians countrywide.

DONOR ELIGIBILITY

- * Be healthy and friendly
- * Be between the ages of 1 and 7
- * Donate at least 4 times a year
- * Weight 50 lbs. or more.

If your dog meets the above minimum requirements, and you are interested in checking further to see if he or she can become a Blood Donor – call Dr. Cristina Iazbik, Managing Director, at (614) 688-8460 to set up an appointment. At your scheduled appointment, your pet will undergo a physical from either Dr. Iazbik or Dr. Couto; blood will be drawn for CBC, profile, heartworm test, typing and tick titers. All results should be back within 3 weeks, and you will learn of your pet's donor eligibility status at that time.

Did you know?

Dogs have blood types.

Dogs blood types (Canines)

1. **Universal** - Any dog can receive Universal blood
2. **Positive** - Only Positive dogs can receive Positive blood; positive dogs can be used as plasma donors.

G R E Y H O U N D S

Our favorite dog breed for blood donation is the Greyhound. They have the perfect vascular system for bleeding (big veins!), are the perfect size and weight, and in general have a fabulous temperament, making them pleasant candidates. In addition, a high percentage of them are equivalent to the human Universal blood type. However, they are not the only dog breed that can donate; any healthy dog weighting more than 50 pounds can potentially become a great donor! We are also frequently in need of new feline blood donors.



Dr. Marín and Dr. Iazbik preparing Guido for donation.



Guido's blood donation

The donors visit the hospital by appointment and after blood is collected, blood components are prepared and stored in state-of-the-art freezers and refrigerators in packaging designed to maintain a safe supply for ready access. The donation process is painless and simple; it only takes about 10 minutes. In general the dogs don't need sedation, in fact, some dogs even wag their tail while they are donating.

BLOOD DONOR BENEFITS

There are some terrific benefits and incentives for those who meet eligibility and typing requirements. All we ask in return is that the owner/foster parent be reliable in bringing their pet to our Animal Blood Bank for donation.

Because the health of our donors and the quality of our products is our priority, each year all our donors undergo a routine physical exam and blood work, including:

- * A complete blood count (CBC),
- * Chemistry profile,
- * Clotting assays,
- * Serological test for heartworm disease and tick borne diseases, and
- * In cats for FIV-FELV (feline immunodeficiency and leukemia viruses)

We also provide (at no cost):

- * Standard vaccines,
- * Heartworm preventative, and
- * Flea and tick control products



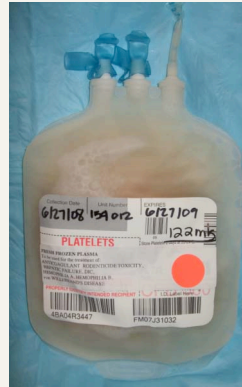
Fiona

BLOOD PRODUCTS

GREYHOUNDS



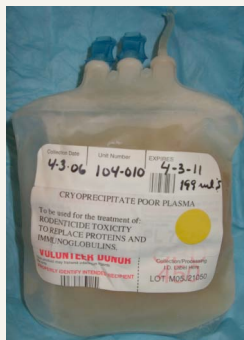
Packed Red Blood Cells (RBC's)
Used in patients with acute or chronic bleeding, hemolysis (red cell destruction), kidney disease, and bone marrow disorders.



Fresh-frozen Plasma (FFP)
Contains all clotting factors and albumin, and is used to treat bleeding due to anticoagulant rodenticide toxicity, liver failure, DIC, or congenital clotting deficiencies.

Cryoprecipitate (CRYO)

Cryoprecipitate is rich in factor VIII and von Willebrand's factor, so it is used for the treatment of hemophilia A and von Willebrand's disease; it can also be used as a topical hemostatic in surgery.



Cryopoor Plasma

Cryoprecipitate-poor plasma contains all clotting factors except von Willebrand's factor and factor VIII. Therefore, it can be used in the treatment of rodenticide toxicity as well as the replacement of proteins (albumin and immunoglobulins). Cryopoor plasma **SHOULD NOT** be used to treat von Willebrand's disease or Hemophilia A.

- * Dr. C. Guillermo Couto, DVM
- * Dr. Paulo Vilar, DVM
- * Dr. Liliana Marin, DVM
- * Dr. Sara Zaldivar, DVM

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WE DEPEND ON YOUR GENEROSITY!!

“Our mission of helping the Greyhounds is supported by your kindness”.

To make a donation to the Greyhound Health and Wellness Program please use the link below to the secure website for online giving, or contact Dr. Guillermo Couto (couto.1@osu.edu) or Karen Longbrake (longbrake.1@osu.edu).

https://www.giveto.osu.edu/igive/OnlineGiving/fund_results.aspx?Source_Code=WA&Fund=310050

We thank you very much for your generous support so that we may continue our mission to help the Greyhounds.

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