USNA INSTRUCTION 6530.1

From: Superintendent, United States Naval Academy

Subj: NAVY BLOOD PROGRAM

Ref: (a) DOD Directive 6480.5
    (b) OPNAVINST 6530.2D
    (c) BUMEDINST 6530.15A
    (d) NNMCMINST 6530.2
    (e) USNAINST 12790.2E

1. Purpose. To prescribe policies for recruitment of blood donors and for proper procurement of blood resources under the Department of the Navy Blood Program.

2. Cancellation. USNA/AACINST 6530.1A

3. Background

   a. References (a) through (c) describe the overall scope of the Department of the Navy Blood Donor Program. Reference (d) endorses the goals of this program and iterates the continuing responsibilities of commanding officers in meeting requirements for adequate supplies of whole blood for use in naval hospitals and medical centers. The Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP), Blood Donor Center (BDC), National Naval Medical Center (NNMC), Bethesda, MD is the designated blood collection agency for the United States Naval Academy (USNA) and Naval Support Activity (NSA) Annapolis.

   b. This is a separate and distinct program from the American Red Cross Blood Program, which "sells" the blood it collects to local hospitals, including military hospitals. In contrast, the Navy Blood Program is designed to meet the needs for blood and blood components for all patients, receiving care in military medical treatment facilities at no cost. The American Red Cross is the only private organization authorized to conduct organized blood draws in support of the Naval Academy Civilian Blood Assurance Program (NACBAP), per reference (e). No other private blood donor program will be permitted anywhere within the USNA and NSA Annapolis, without written authorization from the Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy, and the Head, ASBP-BDC, National Naval Medical Center.

3. Scope. This instruction pertains to all activities within the USNA and NSA Annapolis.

4. Information on Donor Priorities. In view of the conflicting demands made for donors, reference (b) establishes the following priorities of donor availability:

   a. First Priority: Requirements for donors to meet Navy assigned quotas for contingency or other situations.

   b. Second Priority: Requirements for donors to support day to day operations of Naval health care facilities.

   c. Third Priority: Requirements for support of other ASBP Military Treatment Facilities.

   d. Fourth Priority: Requirements for support of other government blood banking facilities.
e. Fifth Priority: Requests for donors by nonprofit civilian blood banking facilities in the local community. Particular emphasis within this priority shall be given to supporting American Association of Blood Bank (AABB) affiliates, American Red Cross (ARC), and other local blood banks which have reciprocal support agreements with naval health care facilities. In all cases where donor support of civilian institutions conflicts with fulfillment of naval blood needs, on-base access of blood drawing teams from such institutions may be limited or denied.

f. Sixth Priority: All other requests for donors.

5. Policy. Requests for active duty donor support by a blood collecting agency other than the Donor Center, NNMC Bethesda, must have prior written approval from the Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy and the Head ASBP-BDC, NNMC, Bethesda. An adequate supply of blood and blood components is necessary to meet both daily requirements for patient care and unforeseen emergency situations. Accordingly, the Superintendent enjoins the wholehearted support and cooperation of tenant commands within the Annapolis Area Complex in this vital Navy Blood Program. Commanding Officers and other management personnel shall allow military personnel and civilian volunteers to donate blood during working hours, for both routine and emergency blood requirements. The Navy policy on donating blood is as follows:

a. Military and civilian personnel are encouraged to donate blood voluntarily, without compensation, to the Navy Blood Program.

b. Personnel who volunteer as blood donors are to be excused for the time necessary to donate blood without charge to leave or loss of pay: normally, this time shall not exceed four hours. Donors should refrain from stressful activity for four hours after donation. Additional time, not to exceed one day, is permissible where unusual need for recuperation occurs. The purpose of excused time is twofold: to encourage participation, and to permit reasonable recuperation time for those who participate.

6. Donors

a. Blood donors shall be between the ages of 17 and 65. Prospective donors who are considered minors under applicable law may be accepted only if written consent to donate blood has been obtained per applicable laws.

b. Individuals in flying status will not be encouraged to donate blood except where a rare blood type is involved or in an unusual emergency. Under no circumstances will these individuals be permitted to make a donation less than 72 hours before performing flying duties.

7. Action

a. Area Operations Officer, Naval District Washington East and Commandant of Midshipmen: Designate a blood donor keyperson and notify Head, ASBCC, NNMC, Bethesda, MD with the individual’s name, telephone number, and areas represented. Also forward this information to the Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy. The keyperson for Naval Support Activity will act as the coordinator for all tenant commands in matters relating to the Navy Blood Program. The keyperson for the Commandant of Midshipmen will act as the coordinator for the Brigade of Midshipmen in matters relating to the Navy Blood Program. The keyperson’s responsibilities include:

(1) Conducting a blood donor education and recruitment program.

(2) Arranging for provision of donors.

(3) Scheduling group blood donations with Blood Donor Center, NNMC, Bethesda.

(4) Providing publicity for the Blood Donor Program as required to meet the established quota.
(5) Making sure no civilian blood agency is permitted to conduct an organized blood donor draw unless such organized blood draw has been approved in writing by both the Superintendent, and Commander, NNMC, Bethesda.

b. Commanding Officer, Naval Health Clinic, Annapolis (NHC): Designate a blood donor coordinator and notify Head, Blood Donor Center, NNMC, Bethesda, MD of the coordinator’s name, telephone number, and areas represented. Also forward this information to the Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy. The coordinator will represent NHCA, Personnel Support Activity Detachment, and the Naval Academy staff in soliciting blood donors to augment the regularly scheduled visits to the Naval Academy by the Blood Donor Center, as published in an annual notice. The responsibilities of the blood donor coordinator include:

(1) Conducting a blood donor education and recruitment program.

(2) Arranging for provision of donors.

(3) Publishing information concerning regularly scheduled Blood Donor Center visits.

(4) Providing publicity for the Blood Donor Program as required to meet the established quota.

c. Provide widest dissemination of this information in support of the Navy’s Blood Program.

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