

Someone's *life* depends on *YOU*.

Testing performed on blood provided by Virginia Blood Services

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and AABB require that the following tests be performed on blood donated by volunteers. They are performed on every donation with Virginia Blood Services:

- **ABO/ Rh testing** – Determines blood type.
- **Antibody screening** – Looks for red cell antibodies that might cause a reaction in a patient.
- **Infectious disease testing for:**
- **Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)** – HIV is the virus that leads to AIDS
 - Antibody test for types I, II and Group O viruses to detect past infections. It takes approximately 22 days after exposure to develop the antibody.
 - Nucleic Acid Amplification (NAT) tests for actual RNA of the virus. This test is able to detect the virus earlier than all other tests for HIV.
- **Hepatitis B virus (HBV)** – HBV is a virus that affects the liver.
 - Surface antigen test detects current infections.
 - Core antibody test detects past infections.
 - Nucleic Acid Amplification (NAT) tests for actual DNA of the virus.
- **Hepatitis C virus (HCV)** – HCV is the leading pathogenic cause of chronic liver diseases.
 - Antibody test detects past infections.
 - Nucleic Acid Amplification (NAT) testing for actual RNA of the virus. This test is able to detect the virus earlier than all other tests for HCV.
- **Human T-lymphotropic virus types I and II (HTLV-I/II)** – HTLV I/II are rare viruses that are associated with a form of leukemia and a chronic degenerative neurological disease. People with a positive test are only rarely affected by the virus – only 1 to 4 percent of individuals who have a true positive result will develop any disease.
 - Antibody test detects possible exposure to past infections
- **West Nile Virus** – NAT testing is used to detect West Nile Virus RNA in donors.
- **Syphilis testing** – Determines exposure to syphilis.
- **Chagas testing** – Determines exposure to a parasite commonly found in central and South America.

