



**PABBY'S PET PANTRY
319 W. COUNTY LINE RD.
HATBORO, PA 19040
(215) 674-3917**

www.pabbyspetpantry.com

**PABBY'S IS NOW A CANINE BLOOD DRIVE SITE
FOR... "Pets Helping Pets"**

PENN ANIMAL BLOOD BANK (PABB)

(Part of the University of Pennsylvania - Penn Veterinarian Medicine)

Just as humans need blood in cases of trauma, surgery, and disease... dogs do too. The Penn Animal Blood Bank is dependant on canine volunteers to donate blood for fellow canines. Each pint of blood can help save the lives of up to three critically ill dogs.

The Penn Animal Blood Bank was started in 1987. Back then, the donors had to go to the University of Penn Veterinarian Hospital. In 1992, the first of two bloodmobiles became a reality and now the PABB team can visit donor sites, which has allowed many more canine volunteers to enter the program.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING APPOINTMENT?



EACH APPOINTMENT LASTS APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES.



DONATION PROGRAM IS VOLUNTEER.



PRIOR TO DONATION, A SMALL AMOUNT OF BLOOD IS COLLECTED FOR HEALTH SCREENING (A variety of blood tests performed annually. You and your veterinarian will be notified of any abnormal results).



THE OWNER WILL BE AT DONORS HEAD TO ALLEVIATE ANXIETY AND PROVIDE REASSURANCE.



A PINT OF BLOOD IS COLLECTED FROM A VEIN IN THE NECK AREA (neck area is shaved, cleaned and disinfected).



A FOOD REWARD IS OFFERED TO DONORS (Each dog will receive one bag of Science Diet® dry or one case of Science Diet® canned in appreciation).



OWNERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO HAVE THEIR DOGS PARTICIPATE IN 3-4 BLOOD DRIVES EACH YEAR - THIS IS TO HELP OFFSET THE COST OF BLOOD TESTS.

CANINE DONATION ELIGIBILITY

- **TEMPERMENT**: Since the donor program is VOLUNTEER, no dog will be forced to donate. Muzzles, restraints and tranquilizers are NOT used, therefore it is important that your dog have a good temperament and can tolerate lying on its side for about 5 minutes.
- **BODY WEIGHT**: A dog must weigh more than 55 pounds and in good body condition (not underweight or obese). Likewise, large breed dogs that weigh more than 150 pounds would not be good donors as they would not be able to fit on the donation table comfortably.
- **AGE**: A dog must be at least 1 year of age and no older than 6 years of age. PABB understands that all dogs are individuals and, in that respect, not all will be "ready" to donate when they are one year old. A member of the PABB staff can help owners decide if their dog is ready to be a blood donor.
- **VACCINATION**: Dogs must have current vaccination for distemper, hepatitis, parainfluenza, parvovirus and rabies. There must be at least a 4-week "resting" period between vaccinations and donation for dogs to be eligible.
- **MEDICATION**: Dogs may NOT donate if they are currently taking any medication (i.e. antibiotics, anti-inflammatory drugs, antihistamines). There must be at least a 14-day "resting" period after the medication is finished and donation.

- According to PABB, fleas, ticks and mosquitoes transmit the majority of infectious diseases. Some of these infectious diseases can be transmitted via blood transfusion. *"For the safety of both the donor and our blood supply, we strongly encourage flea and tick prevention as well as heartworm preventative".*
- **GENERAL HEALTH:** Dogs may NOT donate blood if they have ever been diagnosed with any of the following or current conditions:
 - Heart murmur or other cardiac conditions
 - Seizures or seizure-like activity
 - Heartworm disease
 - Chronic illness
 - Disease/condition that required a blood transfusion
 - Intact bitches, if they are in estrus (heat)
 - If dog recently had surgery - please contact PABB to determine if they will be eligible to donate blood.
 - If a dog has recently been ill (i.e. coughing, sneezing, vomiting, diarrhea), please contact PABB to determine if they will be eligible to donate blood.

CANINE BLOOD TYPES

According to the PABB, more than a dozen blood types have been identified in dogs. Just like in people, dogs can experience incompatibility reactions if transfused with the wrong blood type. There is one canine blood type, Dog Erythrocyte Antigen 1.1 (DEA 1.1), that is known to cause the most significant adverse reactions in dogs that are not matched appropriately. For this reason, ALL potential donors will be blood typed and only those lacking the DEA 1.1 type (DEA 1.1 negative) will be accepted as a donor.

In the case of an emergency, a dog will be given type DEA 1.1 negative, if needed, to avoid any adverse transfusion reactions. DEA 1.1 negative is the canine UNIVERSAL DONOR.



BREED EXCLUSIONS

Infectious Disease Concerns

Just as in human blood, there are screenings for various infectious diseases. In dogs, there is recent information regarding the higher occurrence of certain infectious diseases in a few specific canine breeds.

AMERICAN PIT BULL/STAFFORDSHIRE TERRIERS (or any mixed-breed dog that closely resembles either of these breeds, must be excluded as a donor).

- **BABESIA**: A parasite that lives in the red blood cell that is more commonly recognized in certain breeds. Babesia is introduced into the dog via an infected tick. Active infection of the babesia parasite results in severe anemia, lethargy, fever and sometimes-low platelet count, which can lead to bleeding tendencies. The above canine breeds can be infected with the babesia parasite and not show symptoms (also known as a "carrier"), but still transmit the parasite via blood transfusion. It is not fully known why the above breeds tend to be "carriers" of the babesia parasite, but it is thought that genetic and environmental factors may play a role.

Body Confirmation Concerns

Due to anatomical features, blood donation can be difficult and/or not in the dogs best interest for some breeds.

ENGLISH BULLDOGS

- BAOS (Brachycephalic airway obstruction syndrome). Comparatively short nose and head, which means they have some degree of increased work associated with breathing. So, not to put the dogs at risk for any breathing compromise, they are excluded as donors.



**AT LEAST 8 CANINE VOLUNTEERS ARE
NEEDED FOR EACH BLOOD DRIVE.**

***PLEASE CALL OR COME BY PABBY'S TO MAKE
APPOINTMENT - BE SURE TO READ ALL
DONATION REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO
MAKING APPOINTMENT***