

## Blood Type Compatibility

The importance of properly matched blood types is a critical when patients require blood. There are eight different common blood types, which are determined by the presence or absence of antigens A and B on the surface of the red blood cell.

- **Group A** – has only the A antigen on red cells (and B antibody in the plasma). Group A can donate red blood cells to A's and AB's
- **Group B** – has only the B antigen on red cells (and A antibody in the plasma). Group B can donate red blood cells to B's and AB's.
- **Group AB** – has both A and B antigens on red cells (but neither A nor B antibody in the plasma). Group AB can donate red blood cells to other AB's, but can receive from all others. Group AB is the universal plasma donor.
- **Group O** – has neither A nor B antigens on red cells (but both A and B antibody are in the plasma). Group O can donate red blood cells to anybody. It is the universal red cell donor.

### Donor Blood Type

	O-	O+	B-	B+	A-	A+	AB-	AB+
AB+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
AB-	X		X		X		X	
A+	X	X			X	X		
A-	X				X			
B+	X	X	X	X				
B-	X		X					
O+	X	X						
O-	X							

X = Compatible Blood Type