

Lives depend on it.

Here are some fun facts:

- There are 150 Billion red blood cells in one ounce of blood.
- There are 2.4 Trillion red blood cells in one pint of blood.
- The human body manufactures 17 million red blood cells per second. If stress precipitates a need the body can produce up to 7 times that amount. (That's up to 119 million red blood cells per second.)
- A red blood cell is around 7 microns in size. (A micron is one millionth of a meter).
- It only takes 20 to 60 seconds for a drop of blood to travel from the heart, through your body, and back to the heart again.
- Cows have 800 (and possibly more) blood types.
- The most common blood type in the United States is O Positive (39% of the population), while the least common blood type is AB negative with only (0.5% of the population).
- Patients in the United States use approximately 32,000 pints of blood every day.
- All blood isn't red. Crabs have blue blood. Earthworms and leeches have green blood. Many invertebrates, such as starfish, have clear or yellowish blood.
- Every 5 minutes, an San Diego area hospital patient receives a blood transfusion supplied by a SDBB donor.