



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Ministerial Building
Harvey Street
Private Bag 13198
Windhoek

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tel: No: 061 -2032019
Fax No: 061-304 145
PA.ED@mhss.gov.na

Ref 11/6/4 -

Enq: N. Cupido Ext 2311

19 March 2020

TO: ALL COMPANIES AND INDIVIDUALS THAT SUPPORT BLOOD DONATIONS DRIVES /CLINICS

RE: BLOOD DONATION DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

Due to state of emergency and measures announced by the President which are aimed at containing the spread of SARS-COV-2 (Corona virus), blood collections drives have been severely affected. The closing of schools, universities and other training institutions has forced NAMBTS to cancel blood drives and some companies which are still operating have not allowed them to conduct blood drives at their premises either. This has led to a drop in blood collections by 50% and as a result, NAMBTS has started to ration and reduce blood units supplied to blood banks and hospitals across the country.

The Ministry of Health and Social Services wishes to inform the public that the Corona Virus (COVID-19) cannot be transmitted to the donors and the general public through the blood donation or a blood transfusion as respiratory viruses are generally not known to be transmitted by donation or transfusion. The biggest challenge COVID-19 pandemic is to maintain sufficient stocks of blood for patients in need.

The Ministry of Health and Social Services would like to further confirm and assure prospective donors that it is safe to donate blood, that NamBTS has implemented all necessary safety measures needed to ensure donor clinics environment are safe enough to protect blood donors from contracting Corona Virus and would like to urge everybody to continue donating blood.

All official correspondence must be addressed to the Executive Director.



Your cooperation and continual support to NamBTS with regards to hosting blood donation clinics and encouraging blood donation is really important to ensuring sufficient blood supply to Namibian patients countrywide.

Many thanks, we count on your usual support

Yours sincerely



Mr Ben Nangombe

Executive Director : MoHSS