

Who is replacement blood donor? A
professional, family or voluntary donor

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Introduction

- ❑ Voluntary BD are safest blood donors, but family and replacement BD are the most frequent blood donors in the country.
 - ❑ A total of 40% blood supply from non developed world is from family and replacement blood donors.
 - ❑ Replacement BD is a donor who donates blood in response to a family's blood request but not related with the patient by marriage or birth
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Introduction (2)

- ❑ Family BD are not considered safe because they donate blood under family peer or circumstances pressure and may hide their high risk behavior or illnesses
 - ❑ Replacement BD are also not considered safe for fear of having blood from paid blood donors in the guise of replacement blood donors
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Study Question

- Who are replacement blood donors?
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Method

- ❑ Study Design: Descriptive, Cross sectional and analytical.
 - ❑ Study Site: Blood Bank, JPMC
 - ❑ Study Participant: Family/replacement BD
 - ❑ Research tool: A structured questionnaire and routine screening tests
 - ❑ Study Period: Jan 1-April 30, 2008.
 - ❑ Estimated sample size: 3200
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Results

- ❑ Among 3830 family/replacement blood donors, 33% (31%-35%) appeared replacement blood donors.
 - ❑ Proportion of RBD was lowest in first time blood donor 31% and highest 41%(34%-48%) in well educated blood donors
 - ❑ RBD were relatively young(26.9 vs 27.3)
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Prevalence of HCV, HBV infection

- ❑ Prevalence of HCV was significantly low (3.4% vs 5.0, p value <0.02)
 - ❑ Prevalence of HBsAg was identical (3.1%)
 - ❑ Out of 8 co- infections, 25% were in replacement blood donors
 - ❑ No case of HIV, Syphilis and malaria was identified in either of group
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Discussion

- ❑ Replacement blood donors are young, educated, regular and have low prevalence of HCV infection, comparing family blood donors
 - ❑ Replacement blood donors are less likely to be paid donors and more likely to be voluntary blood donors.
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Discussion(2)

- ❑ Replacement BD mainly exist in the countries where there is no national voluntary blood donors program
 - ❑ They are potential voluntary blood donors but characterized replacement because they have responded patient's family request.
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Discussion(3)

- All blood banks need to identify replacement BD as potential voluntary blood donors and encourage them to be regular voluntary blood donors.
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Thanks
