

# DOCUMENT- 5

## GUIDELINES ON UNIFORM PROCESSING CHARGES FOR BLOOD AND BLOOD COMPONENTS

No.S.12016/01/2012-NACO(NBTC)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
Department of AIDS Control

9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chandralok Building,  
36 Janpath, New Delhi – 110001.  
Dated: 12<sup>th</sup> February 2014

To,  
The Director/Member Secretaries of  
all State Blood Transfusion Councils

**Subject: Guidelines for Recovery of Processing Charges for Blood and Blood Components-reg.**

Sir/Madam,

The National Blood Transfusion Council in its 24<sup>th</sup> Governing Body Meeting held on 20.1.2014 has approved Processing Charges for Blood and Blood Components. A copy of the Guidelines approved by National Blood Transfusion Council on the subject is enclosed.

As per the guidelines, processing charges may be subsidized by the State Governments/State Blood Transfusion Councils for the blood banks in the government sector / DAC supported blood banks. The SBTCs may constitute an expert sub-committee to assess the additional testing/service being included in the processing charges required to enhance blood safety. Due diligence is expected to consider that additional charges are the maximum donated units as per testing/processing of Blood Components based on operative protocols/SOPs of the blood banks.

In continuation to this, it is mandatory for all blood banks (DAC supported and non DAC supported) to provide blood/blood component free of cost to the following patients, who requires repeated blood transfusion as a life saving measure:

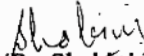
1. Thalassemia patients
2. Hemophilia patients
3. Sickle Cell anemia patients
4. Any other blood dyscrasia requiring repeated blood transfusions

State Government/SBTCs may additionally decide to provide blood/blood components free of cost to any other category of patients according to the State Government norms.

Processing charges for Blood and Blood products for below poverty line (BPL) patients accessing blood from non DAC supported blood banks shall be in compliance with the charges decided by respective State Governments/SBTC.

The order will be come into force with immediate effect.

Yours sincerely,

  
(Dr. Shobini Rajan)

**Director, National Blood Transfusion Council**

Copy to

1. The Project Directors of all SACS.
2. Website of DAC.

Encl: Guidelines of 6 pages on Processing Charges for Blood & Blood Components

## Guidelines for recovery of Processing Charges for Blood and Blood Components

As per the decision taken in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Governing Body Meeting of National Blood Transfusion Council held on 2.12.2011, an Expert Group was constituted for Revision of Processing Charges for Blood and Blood Components. The Expert Group revised the Processing Charges and also considered the recommendations of 16 Member Committee constituted by Maharashtra SBTC. The report of Expert Group Committee has been approved by Governing Body of NBTC in its 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 20.1.2014.

Revised guidelines for processing charges for blood and blood components for blood banks are as follows: -

1. The basic principle of non-profitability should be followed in blood banking, and continue to levy no charge for blood as such, as it is to be collected from voluntary non remunerated blood donors who are not to be paid for donating blood.
2. The nomenclature of "**Service Charges**" should be changed to the nomenclature "**Processing Charges**" which are defined as the charges for processing of blood and blood components for safe blood transfusion to patients. The processing charges are not inclusive of establishment cost i.e. cost of building, equipment etc.
3. Differential cost recovery should be followed for Public and non Public sector blood banks, as processing charges would differ in private sector in view of different rates of kits and consumable offered to private blood banks by the vendors.
4. For Government blood banks, the processing charges are recommended as detailed below.

1.	Whole Blood.	-	Rs. 1050/- per unit
2.	Packed Red Cells	-	Rs. 1050/- per unit
3.	Fresh frozen Plasma	-	Rs. 300/- per unit
4.	Platelet concentrate	-	Rs. 300/- per unit
5.	Cryoprecipitate	-	Rs. 200/- per unit

5. For non- government blood banks, the processing charges are worked out as detailed below.

1.	Whole Blood	-	Rs. 1450/- per unit
2.	Packed Red Cells	-	Rs. 1450/- per unit
3.	Fresh frozen Plasma	-	Rs. 400/- per unit
4.	Platelet concentrate	-	Rs. 400/- per unit
5.	Cryoprecipitate	-	Rs. 250/- per unit

6. Charges for any specialized requirements/tests/ procedures done by the blood bank must be disclosed to the recipient / receiver of blood.

The committee has worked out the maximum charges for the specialized tests per whole blood unit, which can be divided amongst components, as under. The charges for Chemiluminescence and antibody screening were included and charges for NAT were revised keeping in view the cost of specific reagents and additional consumables required for conducting the tests.

Tests	Charges
NAT	Rs. 1200
Chemiluminescence	Rs. 500
IV Generation ELISA(HIV)	Rs. 50
IV Generation ELISA(HBs Ag)	Rs. 50
IV Generation ELISA(HCV)	Rs. 150
Anti Hbc	Rs. 250
Antibody screening (donor)	Rs. 300

The cost of specialized tests which are component specific would be added to the basic charges for that particular component.

Tests/ procedures	Charges	Applicable to
Leuco filtration Red cells	Rs. 1000	Whole blood/ Red cells
Leuco filtration Platelets	Rs. 1500	Platelets
Grouping and cross matching by automation	Rs. 280	Whole blood/ Red cells
Grouping and cross matching by semi automation	Rs. 120	Whole blood/ Red cells
Phenotyping for extended serology	Rs. 500	Whole blood/Red cells
Irradiation	Rs. 1000	Whole blood/Red cells/ Platelets/Granulocytes
Bacterial detection	Rs. 1000	Platelets

The processing charges of blood are exclusive of cost for patient antibody screening and antibody identification, charges for which may be fixed by the blood bank/ hospital.

7. Additional processing charges for blood components using Quadruple bags by bully coat method are recommended as follows

Red Cells	Rs. 150
Platelets	Rs. 150
Plasma	Rs. 100

8. The cost of platelet apheresis should not exceed Rs. 11000/- per unit in non-government blood banks.
9. The committee is of the considered view that the charges for services being provided by blood banks may have variations due to differences in market availability of skilled manpower, items, and other ancillary requirements, which may vary from state to state, and sector to sector. However, it is necessary that the costs of providing blood are recouped by the blood banks. Accordingly, an average of these factors has been considered while arriving at the overall processing charges for blood and blood components. The guidelines so issued are indicative in nature and the concerned department of the state may take its own decisions.
10. The processing charges may be subsidized by the State Governments/ State Blood Transfusion Councils for the blood banks in the government sector and DAC supported blood banks. The State Blood Transfusion Councils may constitute an expert sub-committee to assess the additional testing/ service being included in the processing charges.
11. It would continue to remain mandatory for all blood banks (DAC supported and non-DAC supported) to provide blood/ blood components free of cost to the following, who require repeated blood transfusions as a life saving measure
1. Thalassaemia patients
  2. Haemophilia patient
  3. Sickle cell anaemia patients
  4. Any other blood dyscrasia requiring repeated blood transfusions
- State Governments/ State Blood Transfusion Council may additionally decide to provide blood/ blood components free of cost to any other category of patients according to the State Government norms.
- 12 Processing charges for Blood and Blood components for below poverty. line patients accessing blood from non DAC supported blood banks shall be in compliance with the charges decided by respective State Governments/ State Blood Transfusion Councils.
13. The processing charges for the blood/ blood components should be displayed prominently in the blood bank premises for the benefit of recipients.
14. The guidelines would be revised every three years.

**Details of Recovery of Processing Charges for Blood & Blood  
Component**

<b>Costing for Whole Blood</b>			
<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Determinants of cost</b>	<b>Whole Blood Government</b>	<b>Whole Blood Non Government</b>
1	<b>Consumables / material</b> (Including stationery & IEC)		
	<b>Blood Bags</b>	50	60
	<b>Kits for Transfusion Transmitted infection testing</b>	200	250
	<b>Donor Haemoglobin</b>	30	50
	<b>Blood grouping</b>	70	70
	<b>Cross Matching</b>	70	70
	<b>Chemicals</b>	10	30
	<b>Stationery</b>	20	50
	<b>Glassware and plastic ware</b>	70	70
2	<b>Salary</b> (human resource)	300	500
3	<b>Equipments</b> Maintenance and depreciation	50	80
4	<b>Power</b> (electrical supply including generator backup)	70	90
5	<b>Biomedical waste management</b>	10	10
6	<b>Donor Refreshment</b>	25	25
7	<b>Quality Assurance</b>	25	25
		1000	1380
8	<b>Wastage</b> (@ approximately 5%for whole blood, 7% for components)	50	70
	<b>Total Effective cost</b>	<b>1050</b>	<b>1450</b>

**Details of Recovery of Processing Charges for Blood & Blood  
Component**

<b>Costing for Blood Components</b>			
<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Determinants of cost</b>	<b>Components Government</b>	<b>Whole Blood Non Government</b>
1	<b>Consumables / material</b> (Including stationery & IEC)		
	<b>Blood Bags</b>	200	200
	<b>Kits for Transfusion Transmitted infection testing</b>	200	250
	<b>Donor Haemoglobin</b>	30	50
	<b>Blood grouping</b>	70	70
	<b>Cross Matching</b>	70	70
	<b>Chemicals</b>	10	30
	<b>Stationery</b>	35	60
	<b>Glassware and plastic ware</b>	100	100
2	<b>Salary</b> (human resource)	400	600
3	<b>Equipments</b> Maintenance and depreciation	140	250
4	<b>Power</b> (electrical supply including generator backup)	140	200
5	<b>Biomedical waste management</b>	20	20
6	<b>Donor Refreshment</b>	25	25
7	<b>Quality Assurance</b>	100	100
		1540	2105
8	<b>Wastage</b> (@ approximately 5%for whole blood, 7% for components)	110	145
	<b>Total Effective cost</b>	<b>1650</b>	<b>2250</b>