

NATIONAL BLOOD SERVICE BILL, 2020

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National Blood Service Bill, 2020

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ENTITLED

NATIONAL BLOOD SERVICE ACT, 2020

AN ACT to establish the National Blood Service and to provide for related matters.

PASSED by Parliament and assented to by the President:

National Blood Service

Establishment of the National Blood Service

1. (1) There is established by this Act a body corporate with perpetual succession to be known as the National Blood Service.

(2) The Service may, for the performance of the functions of the Service, acquire and hold movable and immovable property, dispose of property and enter into a contract or any other related transaction.

(3) Where there is a hindrance to the acquisition of immovable property, the property may be acquired for the Service under the State Lands Act, 1962 (Act 125) and the cost shall be borne by the Service.

Members of the Service

2. The members of the Service consists of
- (a) persons in the employment of the Service;
 - (b) persons holding positions created under this Act; and
 - (c) any other persons employed for the Service.

Object of the Service

3. The object of the Service is to provide safe and adequate blood and blood products to patients who require blood transfusion therapy in
- (a) a public health care institution; and
 - (b) a private health care institution.

Functions of the Service

4. To achieve the object under section 3, the Service shall
- (a) develop and maintain an efficient organisation and management structure with approved policies and plans, adequate infrastructure and skilled personnel;
 - (b) collect blood and blood products from voluntary non-remunerated donors who are from the low risk population groups;
 - (c) ensure that all blood and blood products which are donated are appropriately tested, processed, stored and distributed before transfusion;
 - (d) promote the safe and appropriate clinical use of blood and blood products and transfusion practices;
 - (e) promote and protect the health and confidentiality of blood donors and recipients of blood and blood products;
 - (f) ensure, as far as practicable, access to the safe and adequate supply of blood and blood products for transfusion to approved health care institutions in the country;
 - (g) adopt internationally accepted norms, standards and quality management systems to cover all areas of work of the Service;
 - (h) educate the public on blood donation;
 - (i) ensure that blood and blood products are available, affordable and easily accessible to a member of the public who needs them and in particular the vulnerable groups, without any form of discrimination;
 - (j) ensure the quality of tissue, stem cell, umbilical cord blood and their derivatives meant for transplantation to make them safe and prevent their exploitation;

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- (k) inspect and accredit hospital blood banks before the hospital blood banks can be supplied with blood and blood products by the Service;
- (l) advise the Minister on the implementation of the blood policy of Government; and
- (m) perform any other function that is ancillary to the attainment of the object of the Service.

Governance of the Service

Governing body of the Service

5. (1) The governing body of the Service is a Board consisting of
- (a) a chairperson;
 - (b) the Chief Executive Officer;
 - (c) the Director-General of the Ghana Health Service or a representative of the Director-General not below the rank of a Director nominated by the Director-General;
 - (d) a representative of the Ministry of Health not below the rank of a Director nominated by the Minister;
 - (e) a representative of the Attorney-General not below the rank of a Principal State Attorney nominated by the Attorney-General;
 - (f) a representative of the teaching hospitals nominated on a rotational basis by the teaching hospitals;
 - (g) a representative of the security health services nominated on a rotational basis by the security health services;
 - (h) a representative of the Private Health Care Providers Association nominated by the Private Health Care Providers Association;
 - (i) a representative of non-governmental organisations involved in voluntary non-remunerated blood donation nominated by the Coalition of Non-Governmental Organisations in Health;
 - (j) one haematologist nominated on a rotational basis by the Deans of the public medical schools; and
 - (k) one media practitioner nominated by the Ghana Journalists Association.