

**[DOH ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2010-0002,
January 07, 2010]**

**POLICIES AND GUIDELINES PERTINENT TO THE
ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF LOCAL BLOOD COUNCILS
TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL
VOLUNTARY BLOOD SERVICES PROGRAM FOR BLOOD SAFETY
AND ADEQUACY, QUALITY CARE AND PATIENT SAFETY**

I. RATIONALE

One of the provisions of the National Blood Services Act of 1994 (Rep. Act No. 7719) is the promotion and encouragement of Voluntary Blood Donation by the citizenry. This strategy is expected to bring about an adequate supply of safe blood under the National Voluntary Blood Services Program. Furthermore, RA 7719 states that all sectors shall be mobilized to participate in mechanisms for voluntary and non-profit collection of blood. For this purpose, the participation of communities may be obtained by organizing various sectors into Local Blood Councils, which could spearhead the Local Blood Donation Program. The critical role of community participation as the main source of low-risk healthy regular volunteer blood donors needs to be highlighted.

This Administrative Order (AO) describes the Policies and Guidelines which will govern the establishment and operation of Local Blood Councils which shall support the Regional Blood Services Network; component cities, districts, municipalities and barangays. It complements the AO on Guidelines for the Philippine National Blood Services (PNBS) and the Blood Services Network. It states that every region, province and highly urbanized city shall establish a Local Blood Council.

To support the establishment of the Local Blood Councils and assure its integration into existing health initiatives and sustainable financing at the community level, provisions of this Administrative Order for the establishment and operation of Local Blood Councils must be made consistent, whenever applicable, to the Administrative Order on Incentive Scheme Framework for Enhancing Inter-LGU Coordination in Health through Inter-Local Health Zones (ILHZ) and Ensuring their Sustainable Operations (AO No. 2006-0017).

II. SCOPE

This policy shall apply to all community-based organizations which are established and operated to promote voluntary donation and support the collection and provision of safe and adequate blood and blood components for transfusion under the National Voluntary Blood Services Program. Local Blood Councils should be established in every region, province and highly urbanized cities. They are encouraged in component cities, districts, municipalities and barangays.

III. OBJECTIVE

These Policies and Guidelines are promulgated to guide the establishment and operation of Local Blood Councils pursuant to the National Blood Services Act of 1994 (RA 7719) and its Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations. This Administrative Order supplements the following: Guidelines for the Philippine National Blood Services (PNBS) and the Blood Services Network; Operational Guidelines for Blood Services Network (BSN) in Support to the Implementation of the National Voluntary Blood Services Program for Blood Safety and Adequacy, Quality Care and Patient Safety; and, the National Policy on Patient Safety.

IV. DEFINITION OF TERMS:

A. **APHERESIS FACILITY** - a blood service facility where blood collection procedure is done in which whole blood is removed, a selected component separated and the remainder returned to the donor;

B. **BLOOD CENTER (BC)** - a non-hospital based blood service facility licensed by the DOH Bureau of Health Facilities and Services (BHFS) whose main function is to process blood units into blood components and testing of these units for the five (5) infectious disease markers. Detailed service capabilities are enumerated in A.O. No. 2008-0008;

C. **BLOOD COLLECTION UNIT (BCU)** - a blood service facility, duly authorized by the DOH-Center for Health Development whose main function is to collect blood from volunteer non-remunerated blood donors. Detailed service capabilities are enumerated in A.O. No. 2008-0008;

D. **BLOOD DONOR PANEL** - persons recruited and willing to donate blood and may be called upon anytime to donate;

E. **BLOOD DONOR REGISTRY** - a list of individuals who are registered as blood donors with their ABO group and Rh type, identity and contact information (complete name, address, telephone number, e-mail address);

F. **BLOOD SERVICE FACILITY (BSF)** - a unit, agency or institution providing blood products. The types of BSF, i.e., Blood Station, Blood Collection Unit, Hospital Blood Bank and Blood Center (National, Sub-national and Regional) are defined below;

The Blood Centers shall be classified into Regional, Sub-national and National as assigned by the National Council for Blood Services (NCBS);

G. **BLOOD SERVICES NETWORK** - an informal organization established to provide for the blood needs of a specific geographical areas or catchment population. It is composed of the designated blood center, hospital blood banks, blood collection units, blood stations and end-user hospitals/non-hospital health facility/ies. The objectives of the Blood Services Network is the efficient distribution of voluntarily donated blood by the blood center to different Blood Service Facilities, hospitals and other end users to make blood available to all patients, maximize utilization of available blood and avoid wastage;

H. BLOOD STATION (BS) - a blood service facility, duly authorized by the DOH - Center for Health Development (CHD) with the main function is the storage, issuance, transport and distribution of whole blood and packed red cells. Detailed service capabilities are enumerated in A.O. No. 2008-0008;

I. DIRECTORY OF DONOR REGISTRIES - an index of blood donor registries by agency or barangay, which includes the complete names, addresses and other contact information;

J. HOSPITAL BLOOD BANK - a blood service facility in a hospital, duly licensed by the DOH - Center for Health Development (CHD) whose service capabilities are enumerated in A.O. 2008-0008;

K. LOCAL BLOOD COUNCIL - a non-profit, non-governmental, multi-sectoral group whose members come from government and private sector in the local community committed to support the blood program. Its objective is to plan and implement a local blood donation program in accordance to DOH policies and guidelines on Local Blood Councils.

V. STRUCTURAL ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL BLOOD COUNCIL

A.Membership

The Local Blood Council shall be composed of representatives of various community sectors, such as Local Government Units, National Government Agencies in the localities, Local Health Services, Hospitals, PNRC and Dugong Pinoy Chapters, Health Professional Associations, Schools, Military and Police establishments, civic/religious organizations, Business and agricultural sectors, mass media, etc.

B. The Local Blood Council shall be organized as a Non-governmental organization with members coming from both the government and private sectors. It may be established in one of the following ways:

1. Memorandum of Agreement among member organizations designating the Lead Agency and the Custodian of Funds;
2. Created by an Ordinance passed by the appropriate Sanggunian or by an Executive Order of Local Government Executive;
3. Attached to Regional Blood Council and the National Council for Blood Services of the NVBSP.

C. Every region, province and highly urbanized city should establish a Local Blood Council that shall support the Regional Blood Services Network in public education, donor recruitment, organization/conduct of mobile blood donation activities, and provision of human and financial resources;

D. A Local Blood Council is likewise encouraged to be formed in component cities, districts, municipalities and barangays;

E. Objectives of the Local Blood Council:

1. General Objective:

To plan and coordinate the implementation of a Local Voluntary Blood Donation Program which aims to ensure adequate supply of safe blood for the community.

2. Specific Objectives:

- a. To ensure an adequate supply of blood through promotion of voluntary blood donation.
- b. To mobilize human resource/facilities/financial support for local public education and donor recruitment program.
- c. To organize mobile blood donations in coordination with the Regional Blood Center and authorized Blood Collection Units (BCUs)
- d. To organize the hospital and other health services in the community into a functional and efficient network consistent with the established Inter-Local Health Zone (ILHZ).
- e. To assist the local blood services network in public education; donor recruitment; organization/conduct of mobile blood donation activities; and provision of human and financial resources.

F. The Local Blood Council shall elect an Executive Board which shall have at least 11 members.

G. The Executive Board shall elect Officers from members of the Board consisting of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, PRO, Auditor, and such other officers that they deem necessary.

H. The Executive Board shall create Committees to plan and implement components of Local Blood Donation Program, such as:

- Executive Committee
- Committee on Public Education
- Committee on Donor Recruitment
- Committee on Mobile Blood Donation
- Committee on Ways and Means

I. A Local Blood Donation Program Coordinator shall be designated by the Local Government Health Officer.

VI. FUNCTIONS AND LIMITATION OF THE LOCAL BLOOD COUNCIL

A. The Functions of the Local Blood Council are:

- 1. Participate in the formulation of the Local Blood Donation Program that fulfills the needs for blood transfusion in the community;
- 2. Plans and implements public education, advocacy and donor