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Proactive Approach

Blood Bank of Hawaii's (BBH) mission is to protect the state's blood supply and serve Hawaii's hospitals and patients. Taking a proactive approach to the potential threat of the Zika Virus (ZIKV), BBH will participate in studies of a new screening assay being co-developed by Grifols and Hologic, leading partners in highly sensitive blood screening technologies.

The global Zika epidemic now encompasses the South Pacific and is highly likely to reach Hawaii, where shutting down blood collection could devastate our local blood supply. Testing with this assay, which the FDA has approved use of under a special investigational study status, was initially planned to begin on all BBH blood donations in the beginning of September. However, with the recent rulings from the FDA for the active Zika areas in Florida and our unique geographical location/tropical climate, we decided to implement the testing as of August 22nd.

All In

To mitigate the possible risk of transfusion-transmitted Zika virus, the FDA recently published guidance instructing blood centers in areas with active, local Zika cases to stop collecting blood, unless they test blood donors for Zika or implement pathogen inactivation (blood sterilization) technology. Pathogen inactivation is not currently available for all blood

components so it's not really an option yet. Shutting down could severely impact hospital services, treatment and trauma programs.

As a remote island chain this serves as a reminder just how important it is for us to be proactive and self-sustainable. Testing 100% of all donations ensures maximum safety and reliability for the blood supply should Hawaii become an active Zika area.

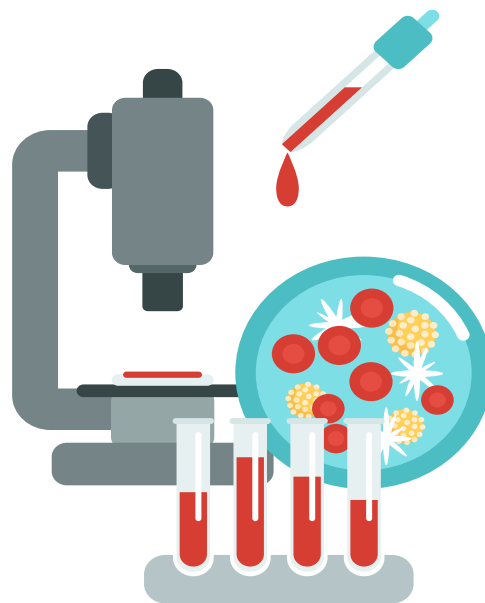
In-The-Know

The addition of this new test will be transparent to blood donors, with only minor changes to the consent form and new information included in the donor education materials. The new

section, Zika Virus Research Information, provides the background about the testing assay, opportunities to participate in voluntary follow-up studies, and the importance of clinical trial such as this.

Participating in this research study also yields a greater understanding of the effectiveness of new testing assays in detecting viruses in donated blood and preventing patient exposure. By donating, blood donors provide data which allow for better test systems to become available to protect the blood supply, help researchers better understand the virus, and support the development of prevention strategies.

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SAVE OUR SUMMER

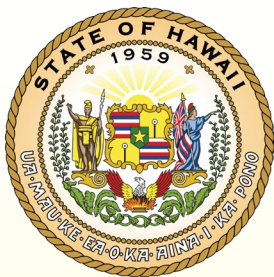


SOS Foodland Winners

Just a few weeks left to help save our summer. Donate before September 5th you could win a \$100 Foodland gift card. One winner every week! All donors will be entered-to-win the grand prize, a neighbor island getaway. Includes a 3-night stay at Castle Resort & Hotels accommodations, airfare for 2 on Hawaiian Airlines and a \$250 gift card.



Some of the happy winners



Support from the State

State of Hawaii awarded \$1.89 million grant-in-aid to help partially fund the relocation of BBH headquarter to mitigate compliance risks due to rail and road construction on Dillingham Boulevard.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

A Story About Life

By Rose Rivera-Chu

With my fourth child on the way, I was scheduled to be induced on my due date, March 29, 2016. However, my water broke at 8am the day prior and I was immediately admitted into the hospital. Hours passed and no progress. I was given some Pitocin to speed up the labor. Eighteen hours went by and still no progress. My doctor decided to check me and I was only 4cm dilated, not quite ready for delivery. Within minutes, I felt some major pains. The monitor showed my baby's heart rate dropping. I needed to adjust my position to get his heart rate up. As I turned to my side, my doctor noticed that my baby had made his way through the birth canal and was ready to meet the world.

As the team rushed to prep the delivery room, the pain kept getting stronger and stronger. I gave it a few good pushes and here he was. Born on March 29, 4:03 a.m. and weighing exactly 6 pounds. 19.5 inches. However, the delivery happened so fast that his little body was in total shock. He



wasn't breathing and his body was motionless.

The amazing team of doctors and nurses quickly sprung into action. They used the tiniest defibrillator to shock his lifeless body once. At this time I was an emotional wreck. Praying God, please don't take him, take me instead. They shocked him yet again, and we got a heartbeat. I heard the sweetest little cry and my heart melted.

In the meantime, I was suffering from a post-partum hemorrhage. One unit of blood is approximately 450ml. Initially I lost 800ml of blood during delivery and another 700ml post-partum. My doctors and nurses worked so diligently to get the bleeding under control, but my uterus wasn't

“ I was rushed to the operating room within minutes of delivery. I barely had the chance to meet my baby boy. ”

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for the Blood Bank of Hawaii and selfless blood donors, I wouldn't have made it through to hold and kiss my baby for the first time. Gratefully, I was able to recover in the hospital and discharged after six days.

Three weeks later, while attending a family gathering at the beach, I felt as if my water had broke again. As I looked down, a large puddle of blood began to pool under me. Both feet were soaking in it. I calmly called 911 as I didn't want to alarm my family. Thankfully, my nephew who is an ER nurse, rushed over to assist me along with my cousin who is also in the medical field. They did a great job monitoring my vitals and keeping me calm as we waited for the first responders to arrive. Five minutes went by, ten minutes went by and before you know it, I passed out. My face turned pale and my lips turned blue as I laid there cold and limp. Shortly after, I awoke to sounds of my family sobbing and praying frantically. A large crowd of family and friends surrounded me fearing that this may be the last time they would see me alive.

contracting like it should've been. I was rushed to the operating room within minutes of delivery. I barely had the chance to meet my baby boy. They worked to stop the bleeding. During that time I lost an additional 1000ml of blood, then another 200ml. All in all, I lost a total of 2.7 liters, which is pretty much my entire blood volume. I received six units of whole blood, two units of plasma and one unit of platelets. If it weren't

I began to faintly hear the sirens as they slowly approached. Once they arrived the EMT asked "Which hospital do you prefer to go?" I replied "Kaiser." He said, "You're not going to make it that far". I was losing blood by the minute. While in the ambulance, my pulse was dropping and I was going in and out of consciousness. I was transported to Queens Medical Center where I was stabilized. I received one unit of blood and was later transported to Kaiser

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”

Permanente. Puzzled by what would cause the hemorrhaging three weeks after, the doctors suggested that I get a hysterectomy. Terrified that this would happen again, I willingly agreed. I was taken into surgery the following day after losing another 500ml of blood, and I received three more units.

What was supposed to be a joyful experience, turned out to be the most traumatizing event in my life. Prior to all this, I myself was a blood donor. I never realized how crucial donating blood was until I was faced with the reality of needing blood myself to stay alive. As I gaze into the eyes of my precious newborn who will be turning five months at the end of August, I am reminded of the selfless blood donors whose blood runs through my veins, the very individuals who saved my life. Because of their blood donations, my children still have their mother and for this very reason, I am and forever will be grateful to each and every blood donor.

A Tradition of Giving

Matt Ireland recently moved to Hawaii as a manager of ADP and brought with him a tradition of giving. On July 14th, Matt encouraged his new team to spend some quality time together donating at BBH donor center at Young Street, like he used to do on the mainland. Eleven members shared stories, encouraged each other, saved lives and enjoyed some time off for their good deeds. "There's no better way for a team to bond than doing something together for the good of the community," said Matt. The smiles and laughter of his employees illustrated just that.



UDHQ 2.0

Changes in the blood banking industry are happening more rapidly. After years of no changes to the uniform donor history questionnaire (UDHQ), we have had a few versions in the past two. From August 22nd, when we implement universal Zika screening, we will also be introducing the latest UDHQ and updated Donor Education Materials.

The UDHQ is a regulated document which must be implemented with the exact verbiage and order of questions mandated by the different

regulating agencies. BBH is not at liberty to make any changes to this or the donor education materials to be in compliance.

The UDHQ is an important safety step of the blood donation process and must be filled out each time. We are looking forward to electronic and abbreviated iterations in the future.

Below are highlights of the changes implementing August 22, 2016 on the UDHQ and Donor Education Materials:

UDHQ 2.0	
Order of Questions	A few questions have been moved and grouped together in chronological time frames to make it easier for donors to follow.
Numbering of Questions	Due to the regrouping of questions, the numbering of the questions are no longer sequential.
Duplicate Questions	With multiple regulating agencies looking at different aspects of compliance, a couple of the questions are repeated.
Gender Identification Box	The gender identification boxes have been removed. If there is a gender specific question that is not applicable, simply choose "No."
Additional Questions	Four Zika related questions have been added at the end to help ensure the safety of the blood supply.
DONOR EDUCATION MATERIALS	
Making Your Blood Donation Safe	A new Zika section has been added.
Medication Deferral List	The medication list is now formatted in a table making it much easier to read.
Zika Virus Research Information	Detailed information on the screening assay has been provided.
List of Countries in Europe & UK	Three new countries have been added: Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia.

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Only Constant Is Change

Every blood center in the world has to look at their unique situation and continually adjust their strategy to provide a safe and reliable blood supply. Blood banks must balance the current threats to blood safety, available technologies, costs, and impacts to blood inventory. In the case of the Zika virus, outward facing changes are minimal to donors and hospitals. However behind the scenes, we are working to increase donations to make up for anticipated donor deferrals.

New Way to Make a Difference

As more viruses continue to emerge, it will be difficult and cost prohibitive to simply keep developing and adding new tests. Pathogen inactivation, a process for sterilizing blood, will be the future. For now, when you donate blood at BBH you are not only saving lives for our loved ones in Hawaii, you are helping shed light and making a difference in the fight against Zika.

Not getting Circulate? Go to BBH.org donor login to set up your donor account and add your email address.