

#### UPDATE BLOOD AND BLOOD PRODUCT AVAILABILITY

# 27th December 2024

#### **BACK GROUND**

The National Blood Transfusion Services in Zambia plays a critical role in saving lives and improving health outcomes. The Provincial Health Office, through its blood unit, strives to ensure a safe and adequate blood supply for therapeutic use in Luapula Province.

# **Blood Collection Trends (2017-2023)**

From 2017 to 2023, the average annual blood collection was 9,925 units. However, the crude discard rate was approximately 19%, with 4% attributed to HIV, 5% to HBV, 4% to HCV, and 6% to syphilis.

#### 2023 Blood Collection and Demand

In 2023, 9,499 blood units were collected, falling short of the provincial requirement of 15,600 units (60% achievement). The unmet need for blood and blood products exceeds 30%. The increasing population in Luapula Province, from 1.3 million to 1.55 million, has escalated the demand for blood to 18,000 units per annum.

## Partnerships and Support

The Ministry of Health, Central Level, and key Implementing Partners (IPs) like Basal Medical Cooperation Association and USAID-PAMO have collaborated to mobilize resources and improve blood and blood product availability.

# **Challenges and Future Plans**

Despite the support, the province faced challenges in January 2024 due to a central stockout of blood collection packs and reagents. This resulted in a limited blood collection of only 135 units in January 2024. However, with the support from BMAC (K604,811) and the incorporation of the plan and budget into the Mid-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) for 2024-2026 from the Government of the republic of Zambia, improvement has been noted.

# Notable Improvements in Luapula Province's Blood Bank

- Increased Government Funding: The Government of the Republic of Zambia has increased funding for blood bank operational inputs, demonstrating its commitment to improving healthcare services.
- 2. Partnership with Basel Association for Medical Cooperation (BAMC): BAMC has provided financial support to ensure 100% availability of safe blood in Luapula Province, underscoring the importance of collaborative efforts in achieving healthcare goals.
- Improved Supply Chain Management: The supply of essential blood collection materials has been enhanced, including:
  - a. Blood bags
  - b. Donor therapeutic supplies via the ZAMMSA contractual framework
  - c. Reagents for the blood testing machine slowly stabilizing
- 4. **Enhanced Logistics**: An additional new vehicle has been provided to support blood collection activities, facilitating the transportation of blood and medical supplies.

These improvements demonstrate the progress made in strengthening the blood bank services in Luapula Province. The Provincial Health Office through the blood bank center is committed to improving blood collection and supply in Luapula Province.

#### PERFORMANCE PROGRESS 2024

As of February 2024, blood collection activities at the blood bank centre have been successfully revamped. This positive development is largely attributed to the timely provision of essential blood collection supplies by the central level, specifically the Ministry of Health, ZNBTS, and ZAMMSA. With these supplies in place, the blood bank centre is now fully operational and on track to meet its blood collection goals.

Month	Target	Collected	Collection %	Gap	Comment
Jan-24	1600	135	8%	1465	Blood Collection supplies stock out
Feb-24	1600	1609	101%	-9	Target Reached
Mar-24	1600	1681	105%	-81	Target Reached
Apr-24	1600	1117	70%	483	Low donor Turn out
May-24	1600	1524	95%	76	Low donor Turn out
Jun-24	1600	1317	82%	283	Low donor Turn out
Jul-24	1600	1530	96%	70	Low donor Turn out
Aug-24	1600	1377	86%	223	Low donor Turn out
Sep-24	1600	1561	98%	39	Low donor Turn out
Oct-24	1600	1600	100%	0	Target Reached
Nov-24	1600	1589	99%	11	Low donor Turn
Dec-24	1600	1509	94%	91	Blood Collection still in progress
Total	19200	16549	86%	2651	

### **Comment:**

1. Low donor turns out leading to extended blood collection period

# **BLOOD DISTRIBUTION TO TRANSFUSION CENTERS**

NO	NAME OF FACILITY	Jan- 24	Feb- 24	Mar- 24	May- 24	Jun- 24	Jul- 24	Aug- 24	Sep- 24	Oct-24	Total	Average % Consumption by Facility
T1	Chembe Min Hospital	7	36	36	40	45	38	38	28	38	306	3%
<b>T2</b>	Chiengi District Hospital	10	59	53	60	75	52	52	116	55	532	6%
T3	Kasaba Mission Hospital	3	36	42	41	27	49	35	47	47	327	3%
T4	Kawambwa District Hospital	13	53	46	49	86	48	47	73	58	473	5%
T5	Lubwe Mission Hospital	9	39	39	33	47	45	43	49	46	350	4%
T6	Lwela Min Hospital	6	6	6	6	8	8	8	8	8	64	1%
T7	Mambilima Mission Hospital	12	19	25	17	28	38	38	49	46	272	3%
T8	Mansa District Hospital		26	29	29	32	26	23	38	26	229	2%
T9	Mansa General Hospital	45	559	559	554	416	448	428	655	347	4011	<b>42</b> %
T10	Mbereshi Mission Hospital	8	55	50	55	55	42	38	70	54	427	<b>4</b> %
T11	Milenge District Hospital	8	28	27	28	33	22	21	40	38	245	3%
T12	Mwense District Hospital	8	40	40	42	42	50	40	50	35	347	<b>4</b> %
T13	Nganda Bilonda District Hospital	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	28	58	1%
T14	Samfya District Hospital	10	59	70	63	51	42	37	73	46	451	5%
T15	Senama Level 1	5	5	6	5	8	8	8	11	8	64	1%
T16	St. Paul's Mission Hospital	17	248	245	317	160	109	103	138	107	1444	15%
	Total	161	1268	1273	1339	1113	1025	959	1475	987	9600	

# Comment:

- 1. November 2024 not captured yet
- 2. Average % Consumption calculated from Total Blood Units Distributed to Transfusion centres
- 3. Nganda Bilonda District Hospital Newly activated site
- 4. Scaled down supplying more units to St Pauls Mission to prevent expiries that were recorded in June and previous months. Currently monitoring the consumption trends.

# **KEY UPDATES HUB OPERATIONALIZATION**

# St Pauls Has Received the equipment below









Standard Storage Facilities 1 Refrigerator

- ✓ Whole/RCC
- 1 Freezer -80
  - ✓ FFP/Cryoprecipitate

3 Cooler Boxes

Quality and Proper Transportation of Blood

4 Temperature loggers Monitoring during Transportation

Note> The Lab is currently undergoing minor renovation with support from MOH-PHO Global funds to improve Lab work flow

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

No	Challenge	What is being done Long Ter	Long Term Solution		
1.	Low donor turnouts in	1. Joint Visit with Ministry of Education 1. Star	ck holder engagement meeting		
	Schools as primary	done for 12 District Education Board Par	ents and Teachers		
	blood collection sites	Secretaries 2. Qua	rterly Joint Visit with Ministry of		
		2. Identification of Focal Point persons Edu	cation to consistently raise		
		at DEBS and Schools awa	reness of blood donation at DEBS		
		3. Community Engagement through radio 3. Rec	ommendation to vary funds to		
		programs. sup	port this key input		
2.	Unstable Power	1. Use of the Generator Mansa General 1. Exem	ption of Mansa General Hospital		
	supply for the blood	hospital and Blood Bank as back up from	Load Management		

	testing voltage below	2.	Reducing equipment Load on the line	2.	Procurement of new UPS support the
	230V as input		supplying power to Blood Bank centre		machine in case of sudden power cut.
3.	Storage space at	1.	Temporal outsourcing of fridges at	1.	Renovation Project the Provincial
	central blood bank		PHD		Blood bank under World Bank (The
	4/6 are functional	2.	Efficient Processing of Donor blood		Package also include storage facilities)
			units for quick distribution in order to		
			create space		
		3.	Constant Monitoring		

## Focus Area: Enhancing Blood Donation and Supply Chain Efficiency

- 1. Improving Donor Turnover among Pupils and Students
  - ✓ To meet the monthly target of 1,600 blood units, we will collaborate with the Ministry of Education to increase donor turnout among eligible pupils and students.

# Key Strategies:

- Re-mapping of Schools: Identify and re-map problematic schools for targeted education and sensitization activities.
- 2. **Engagement with School Management and Guardians**: Foster partnerships with Parent-Teacher Committees to promote blood donation awareness and encourage participation.

## 2. Quarterly Procurement of Blood Bank Supplies

- ✓ The objective is to ensure efficiency and reduce lead times, we will implement quarterly procurement of essential blood bank supplies, including:
  - Fuel

- Other critical blood bank supplies

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