

# **Division of Blood Transfusion Services**

**Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**



# National Blood Policy



- National Blood Policy & National Blood Program have been developed by the Govt of India, for the provision of Safe and Adequate blood transfusion services to the people.



# Mission Statement

- Easily accessible and adequate supply of safe and quality blood collected from voluntary non-remunerated regular blood donor in well equipped premises, and is stored and transported under optimum conditions.
- Transfusion under supervision of trained personnel for all who need it irrespective of their economic or social status through Total Quality Management Approach.



# Objective 1

To reiterate firmly the Govt. commitment to provide safe and adequate quantity of blood, blood components and blood products.

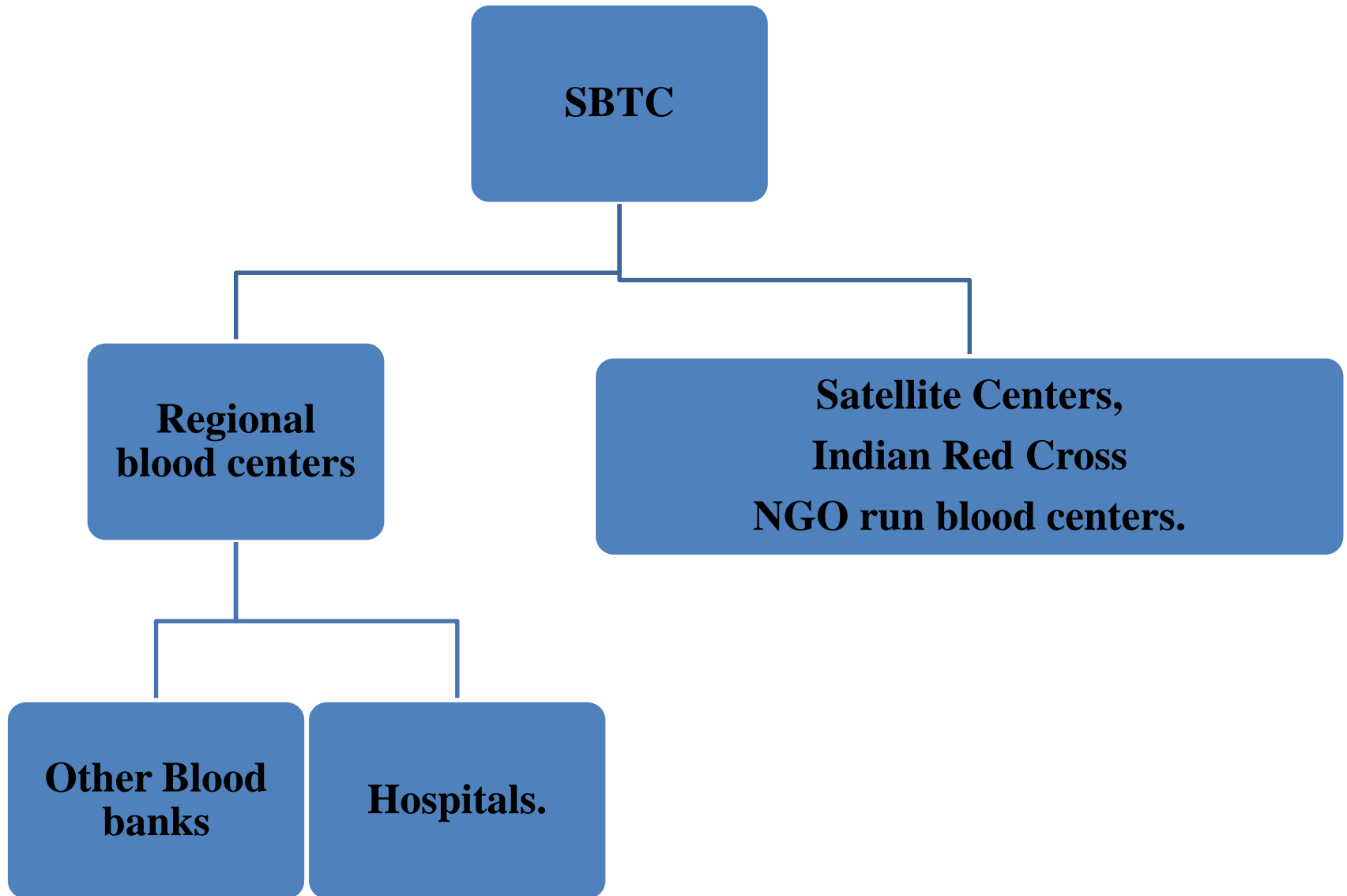


# Strategy

- **1.1** national blood transfusion program shall be developed to establish National & State Blood Transfusion Services.
- **1.2** Trading in blood shall be prohibited.
- **1.2.1** Practice of replacement donors shall be phased out to achieve 100% voluntary non-remunerated blood donation program.



# 1.3.1





- **1.3.2** Regional centers, guided by SBTC, will be autonomous and shall be referral centers for the region assigned to it.
- **1.3.3** NBTC shall define NGO run blood centers to avoid profiteering in blood banking.
- **1.4** For remote border area Armed Forces, amendments shall be made in Drugs & Cosmetics Act. These units shall also be responsible for civilian blood needs of the region.



## Objective 2

To make available adequate resources to develop and reorganize the blood transfusion services in the entire country.



- **2.1** NBTC & SBTC will be financially supported from resources of various existing programs, international/bilateral agencies.
- **2.2** Blood transfusion service shall be made viable through non-profit recovery system.



## Objective 3

- To make latest technology available for operating the blood transfusion services and ensure its functioning in an updated manner.

- **3.1** Minimum standards for testing, processing & storage shall be set & ensured.
- **3.2** A Quality System Scheme shall be introduced in all blood centers.
- **3.2.1** Quality Assurance Manager, exclusively responsible for quality assurance, shall be designated at each Regional Blood Center / any blood center collecting more than 15,000 units per year.



- **3.2.2** As a part of continuous improvement program, every blood center shall introduce an Internal Audit System followed by Corrective Actions, to reduce variations in Standard Operating Procedures.
- **3.2.3** Regular workshops shall be conducted on Quality Assurance.
- **3.2.4** Regular Proficiency Testing shall be introduced in all blood centers.

- **3.3** External Quality Assessment Scheme (EQAS) shall be introduced to achieve higher standards and uniformity.
- **3.4** Efforts shall be made to indigenise equipment and consumables.
- **3.5** Automation will be encouraged.
- **3.6** Availability of state-of-the-art technology will be ensured.

- **3.7** Each blood bank shall develop its own Standard Operating Procedures.
- **3.8** All blood centers shall adhere to bio-safety guidelines as provided in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare manual ‘Hospital Acquired Infections : Guidelines for Control’ and disposal of biohazardous waste as per the provisions of the existing Biomedical Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules-1996 under the Environmental Act- 1986.





## Objective 4

- To launch extensive awareness programs for donor information, education, motivation, recruitment and retention in order to ensure adequate availability of safe blood.



- **4.1** Education & awareness programs shall be conducted for recruitment and retention of Voluntary, non-remunerated blood donors.
- **4.2** Enrolment of safe donors shall be ensured.
- **4.3** SBTC shall recognise the Regular voluntary non-remunerated blood donors and donor organisers.



- **4.4** SBTC shall campaign for promotion of Voluntary Blood Donation and awareness regarding dangers of blood from paid donors and procurement of blood from unauthorized blood banks.
- **4.5** SBTC shall involve other sectors for promoting Voluntary Blood Donations.



# Objective 5

To encourage appropriate clinical use of blood and blood products.



- **5.1** Blood shall be used Rationally and Appropriately.
- **5.2** Updated National Guidelines on ‘Clinical use of Blood’ shall be made available.
- **5.3** Effective and efficient Clinical use of blood shall be promoted.
- **5.4** Education and training in effective clinical use of blood shall be organized.



- **5.5** Blood and its components shall be prescribed only by a Registered Medical Practitioner.
- **5.6** Availability of blood components shall be ensured by creating adequate Blood Component Separation Units.
- **5.7** Existing capacity shall be increased and new centers shall be established for Fractionation of Plasma.

- **5.8** Adequate facilities for transporting blood and blood products including cold-chain maintenance shall be made available.
- **5.9** Guidelines for management of blood supply during natural and man made disasters shall be made available.

## Objective 6

To strengthen the manpower through human resource development.





- **6.1** Transfusion Medicine shall be treated as a speciality.
- **6.1.1** Separate Department of Transfusion Medicine shall be established in Medical Colleges.
- **6.1.2** Medical Colleges shall be encouraged to start PG degree and Diploma in Transfusion Medicine.
- **6.1.3** PG courses for technical training in transfusion medicine (PhD / MSc) shall be encouraged.



- **6.2** In all the courses for Nurses, Technicians and Pharmacists, Transfusion Medicine shall be incorporated as one of the subjects.
- **6.3** In-service training programs shall be organized for all categories of personnel working in blood centers, drug inspectors and other officers from regulatory agencies.

- **6.4** Appropriate modules for training of Donor Organizers/Donor Recruitment Officers shall be developed to facilitate regular and uniform training programs.
- **6.5** Short orientation programs shall be organized for Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and NGOs who wish to participate in Voluntary Blood Donor Recruitment Program.
- **6.6** Inter-country and intra-country exchange for training and experience of personnel shall be encouraged.



# Objective 7

To encourage Research & Development in the field of Transfusion Medicine and related technology.



- **7.1** A corpus of funds shall be made available to NBTC/SBTCs to facilitate research and technology.
- **7.2** A technical resource core group at national level shall be created to co-ordinate research and development in the country. This group shall be responsible for recommending implementation of new technologies and procedures in coordination with DC(I).
- **7.3** Multi-centric research initiatives shall be encouraged.

- **7.4** Operational research on Donors, TTIs, Clinical use of blood & need assessment shall be promoted.
- **7.5** Computer based information and management systems shall be developed for the use by all the centers to facilitate networking.

## Objective 8

To take adequate regulatory and legislative steps for monitoring and evaluation of blood transfusion services and to take steps to eliminate profiteering in blood banks.

- **8.1** For grant/renewal of blood bank licenses, a committee shall be constituted. It will comprise of members from SBTC including Transfusion Medicine expert, Central & State FDAs. It will scrutinize all applications as per the guidelines provided by Drugs Controller General ( India)
- **8.2** Fresh licenses to stand-alone blood banks in private sector shall not be granted.
- Renewal of such blood banks shall be subjected to thorough scrutiny and shall not be renewed in case of noncompliance of any condition of license.



- **8.3** All SBTCs shall identify Regional Blood Transfusion Centers. These regional centers shall supply blood and blood components to satellite centers.

The Regional Centre shall be responsible for transportation, storage, cross-matching and distribution of blood and blood products through satellite centers.



- **8.4** A separate blood bank cell shall be created under a senior officer not below the rank of DDC(I) in the office of the DC(I) at the headquarter.

State Drugs Control Department shall create such similar cells with the trained officers including inspectors for proper inspection and enforcement.

- **8.5** Paid blood donors operate in the disguise of replacement donors. To prevent this, institutions who prescribe blood for transfusion shall be made responsible for procurement of blood for their patients through their affiliation with licensed blood centers.



- **8.6** States/UTs shall enact rules for registration of nursing homes wherein provisions for affiliation with a licensed blood bank for procurement of blood for their patients shall be incorporated.
- **8.7** The existing provisions of drugs & Cosmetics Rules will be periodically reviewed to introduce stringent penalties for unauthorized/irregular practices in blood banking system.

