HCSC - Blood Center, Bethlehem, PA 18017

16 Year Old Blood Donor Parent/Guardian Permission Form Please <u>complete ALL areas of the form</u> and bring it with you on the day of the blood drive

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To ensure a safe and pleasant experience, please refer to the important information on the reverse side of this form.

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Donating Blood Step-By-Step

Before Donating Blood

Commit

• Visit GIVEaPINT.org, call 1-800-B-A-DONOR (1-800-223-6667).

Eat & Hydrate

- Eat a meal before donating. Choose salty food because the body can lose up to 2 grams of salt during donation.
- Drinking plenty of water or non-caffeinated drinks the day before and the day of donation will help ensure a pleasant donating experience.

Donation Process

- The Whole Blood donation process, from registration to refreshments, takes approximately 45 minutes. The actual donation time is less than 15 minutes.
- The Double Red Blood Cell donation process takes approximately 1 to 1 ½ hours. The actual donation takes about 30
 minutes.
- The Platelet donation process takes about 2 hours. The actual donation time takes about 60-90 minutes.

During the Donation

Step 1: Registration

• Present proper identification (e.g. photo ID including first and last name, student or work ID).

Step 2: Mini-Physical

During the mini-physical, we check temperature, pulse, hematocrit and blood pressure.

Step 3: Donor History Questionnaire

- For convenience, donors can answer the donor history questionnaire on the day of donation prior to arriving for their blood donation using iScreen at www.GIVEaPINT.org/iScreen. If the donor cannot access iScreen prior to arrival, they will have the opportunity to answer the questions in a secure, private setting at the Blood Center or blood drive.
- Donors will be asked to answer questions about their health history, travel and lifestyle.
- All information gathered is kept strictly confidential.

Step 4: Donate

- A trained Collections Specialist will select the vein to be used and clean the area of the arm that will be used for the blood donation.
- Once the needle is in place, the donor will squeeze a ball to keep the blood flowing.
- To reduce the chance of a reaction, contract the muscles in the lower body by alternately raising a foot a few inches off the chair for a few seconds at a time.
- After the donation is complete, the needle is removed and a pressure wrap is applied.
- Donors will be asked to keep the bandage on and dry for 24 hours.

Step 5: Relax and Replenish

• For donor safety, all donors will be asked to sit on the edge of the phlebotomy bed for 1-2 minutes. Donors will then be asked to stay in our canteen for at least 15 minutes, where they will sit, relax, and have a snack and drink.

After the Donation

Hydrate

Drink plenty of water or non-caffeinated for the rest of the day to restore fluid balance.

Relax

• Avoid strenuous activity or heavy lifting after the donation.

Check Mini-Physical Results

- After 24 hours, go to the **My Profile** section of **www.GIVEaPINT.org** to see all the mini-physical results that were taken the day of the donation.
- If your child is feeling sluggish, have them drink electrolyte replacement fluids (e.g. Powerade®/Gatorade®) and get plenty of rest.
- If your child is feeling light-headed, have them lie down and prop their feet up higher than heart level until feeling better.
- If your child does not feel better call, text or email Diane L. Wiest, RN at 484-225-8351, or mailto:dwiest@giveapint.org.

 If you feel it is a true emergency, call your family physician, visit the closest medical facility or dial 911.