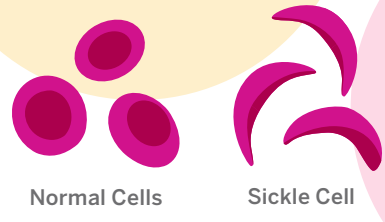
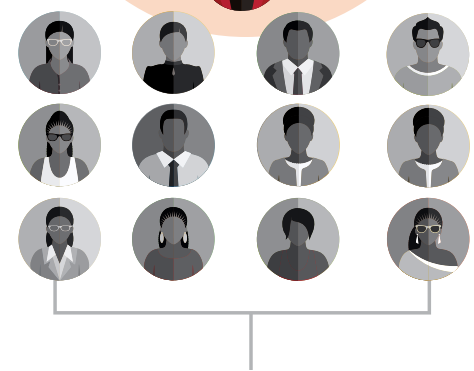
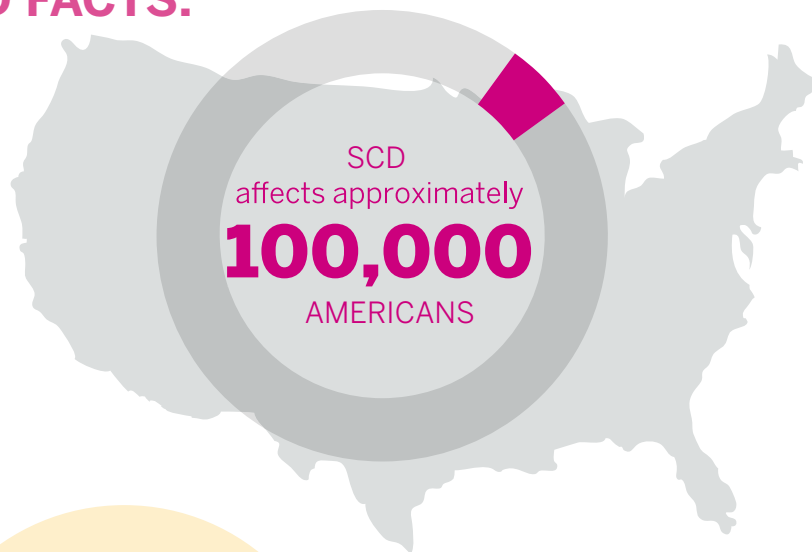


Sickle Cell Disease Facts

Sickle cell disease (SCD) is a genetic blood disease that affects millions of people around the world, with a high prevalence among African Americans. Patients with this disease can experience severe pain and often require blood transfusions as a form of treatment, sometimes every 3-4 weeks.

SCD FACTS:



You Are Your Own Best Match

Donating Blood in Your Community,
Saves Lives in Your Community



Patients who look like you, need donors like you. Help us spread awareness in your community.

Why is an ethnically diverse blood supply important?

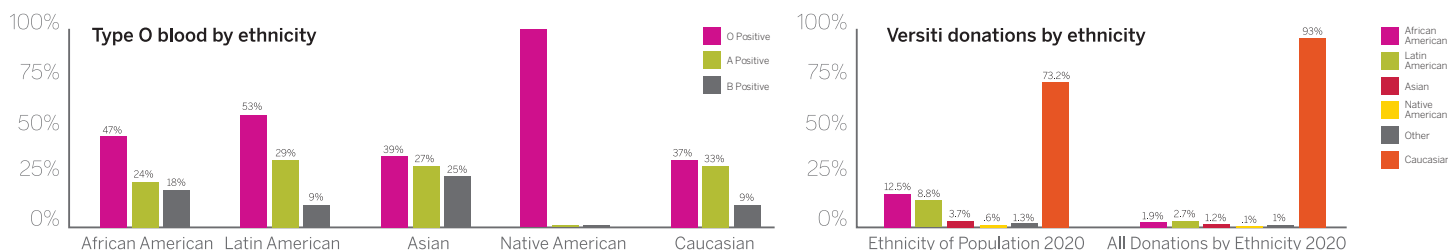
- Representation is key. Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) blood donations have historically been low in the U.S.
- Many patients experience the best outcomes when they receive lifesaving donations from individuals of similar ethnic backgrounds, ensuring fewer complications after a transfusion.
- Increasing these numbers helps us provide a better quality of life for patients of all ethnic backgrounds, and may be the difference between life and death for a patient in need.

Ethnically diverse blood is in high demand

Every day in the U.S., approximately 29,000 units of red blood cells are required in hospitals and emergency treatment facilities for patients with cancer, anemia and other blood diseases; for organ transplant recipients; and to help save the lives of accident/trauma victims.

In addition, nearly 5,000 platelet units and 6,500 units of plasma are also needed.

Type O blood, especially, is routinely in short supply and in high demand by hospitals – and the African American, Latino, Native American and Asian populations carry a high percentage of type O blood.



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One person can help save hundreds of lives by hosting an annual blood drive program. **Without you this isn't possible. Join our mission!**

Visit [versiti.org/diversity](https://www.versiti.org/diversity) to learn more.