

Mayo Clinic Minute

The constant need for blood donations

Video	Audio
	Every 10 minutes, a Mayo Clinic patient needs a blood transfusion.
	Dr. Justin Kreuter, medical director of Mayo Clinic's Blood Donor Center, says with that constant demand, they need about 100 donors per day just to maintain that blood supply.
Justin Kreuter, M.D. Laboratory Medicine and Pathology Mayo Clinic	"Every day, we need a whole lot of people to take an hour out of their day, roll up their sleeve and donate blood so that our family members can live, our community members can live, patients that we're never going to meet in our lives can fight their cancer."
	Keeping the inventories stocked isn't the only challenge blood banks are facing.
	"It's really important that we build diversity into our blood donor community."
	Dr. Kreuter says there are patients with certain blood types that are best matched by donors from the same ethnic background.
	"By having diversity in the blood that's on our shelves, if there's somebody in our community that needs that blood rapidly, we're more likely to find a safe and compatible unit for them."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Jason Howland.