

The donation of plasma



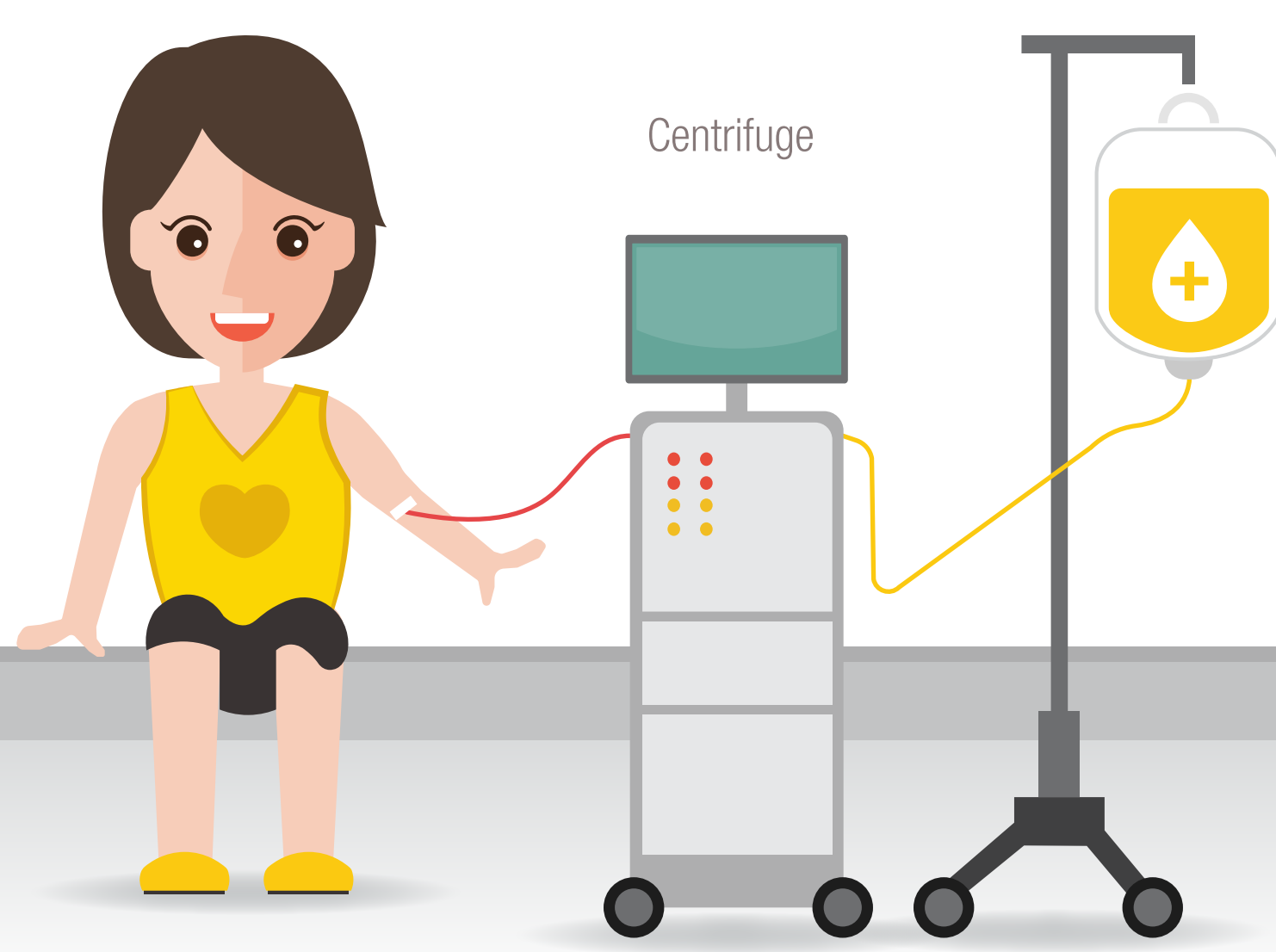
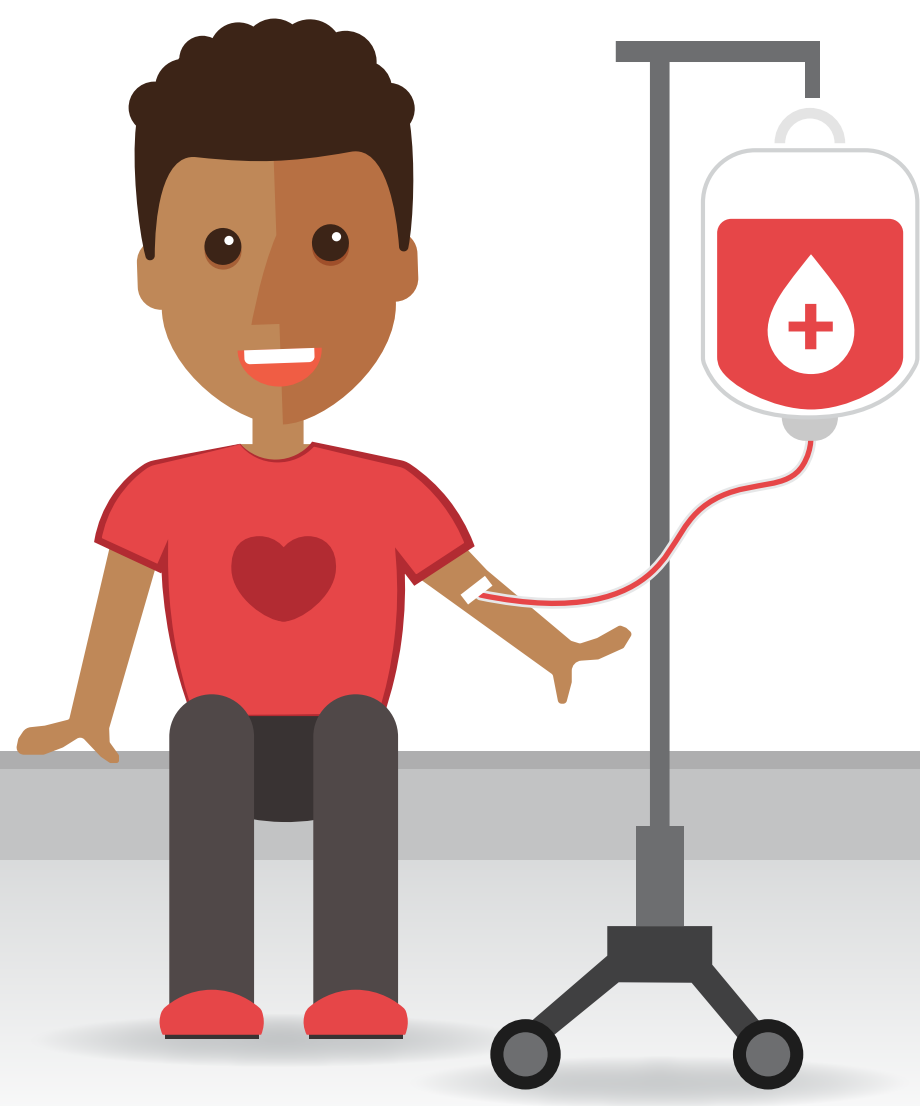
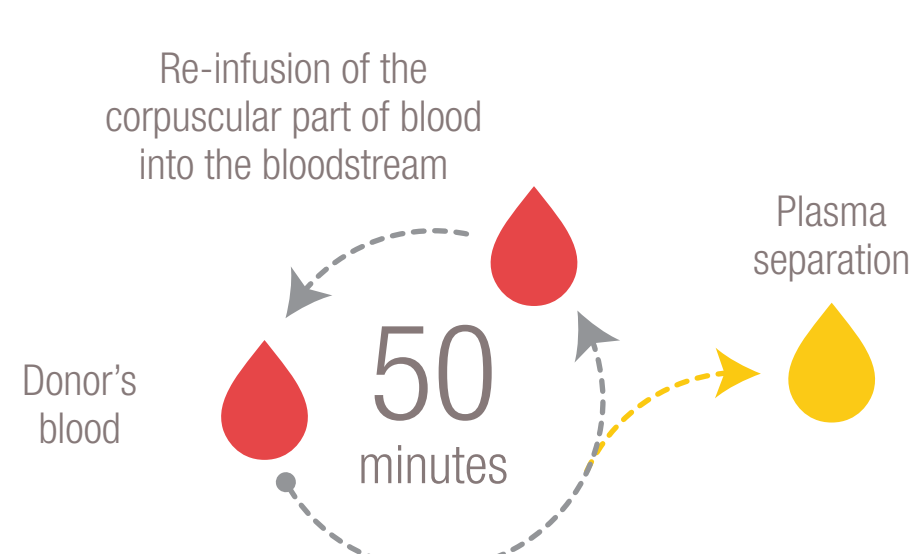
The plasma collected in Italy comes from voluntary, regular, responsible, anonymous and unpaid donations.

It is possible to donate blood and single blood components: **red blood cells**, platelets and **plasma**.

Blood is composed of a fluid part called plasma and a corpuscular part including several types of cells and cell fragments.

The volume percentage of plasma is around 54-58% of the whole blood. The remaining 42-46 % called haematocrit is composed of cellular elements.

Plasma can be obtained by the separation of the blood and through a single donation procedure called "plasmapheresis".



Donating blood

A blood donation takes on average 10 minutes. Each blood donation collects 450 ml of blood that will be later centrifuged. The centrifuge enables the separation of the corpuscular part from the liquid one obtaining blood components for transfusion (red blood cells, platelets and plasma).

Donating plasma

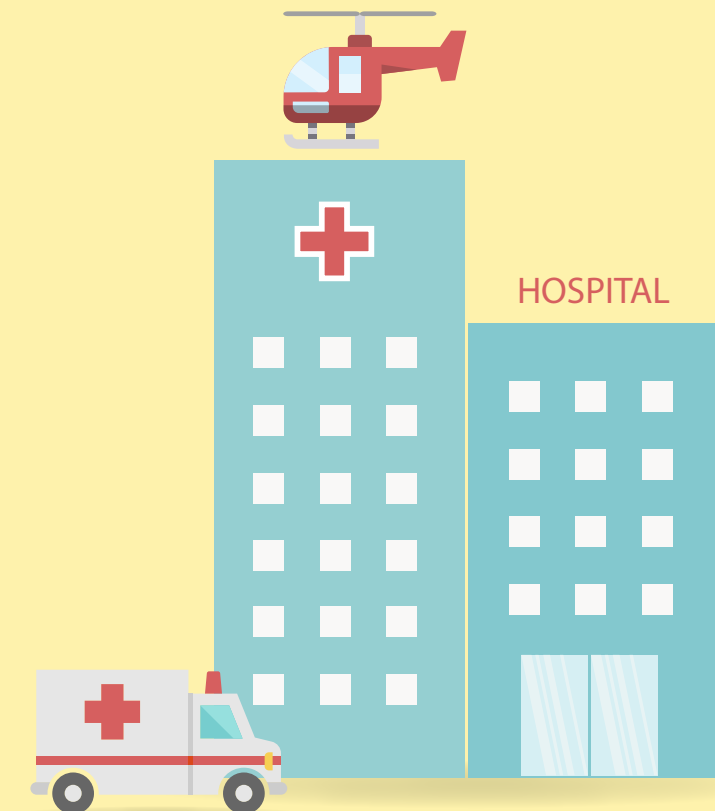
The donation of plasma as a single blood component is carried out through a specific equipment (plasmapheresis machine) that immediately separates the corpuscular part from plasma. The volume of a single donation ranges from 600 to 700 ml. The corpuscular part is re-infused to the donor and the liquid lost during the donation will be reconstituted by natural mechanisms of recovery, physiological saline infusions and fluid intakes.

The donation of plasma is important!

There are no first or second class donations.

Blood therapies

In Italy, about **1,700,000 voluntary** blood and plasma donors allow daily blood therapies to patients throughout the country.



The choice

The choice of donating plasma depends on the characteristics of the donor and on the therapeutic needs.



Frequency of donation

With a plasmapheresis donation, between 600 and 700 ml of plasma are sampled. The time between two plasma donations shall not be less than 14 days. It is possible to donate up to 12 litres of plasma annually.



50 minutes

The procedure takes about 50 minutes.



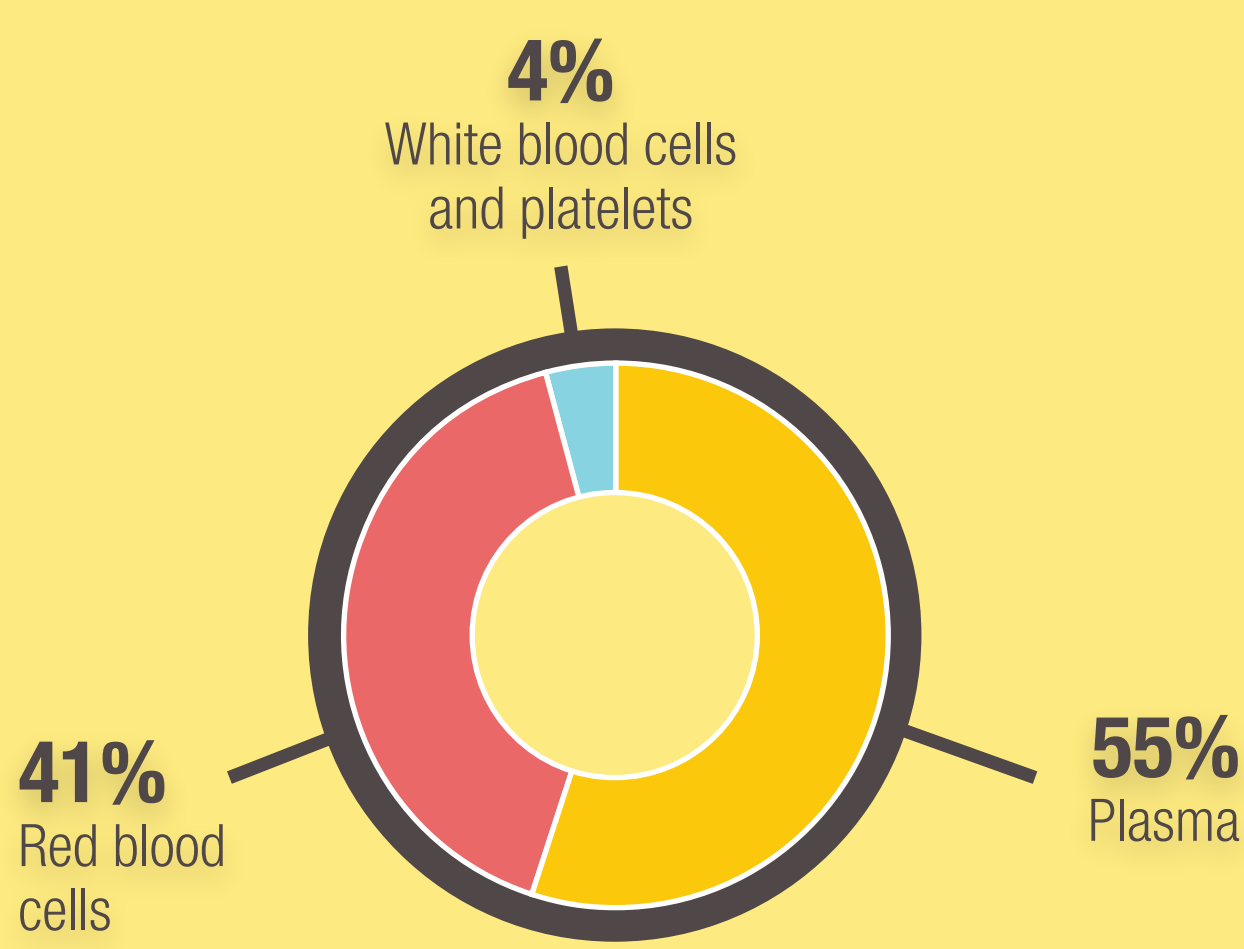
Safe donation

The donation of blood or plasma is completely safe for the donor's health.



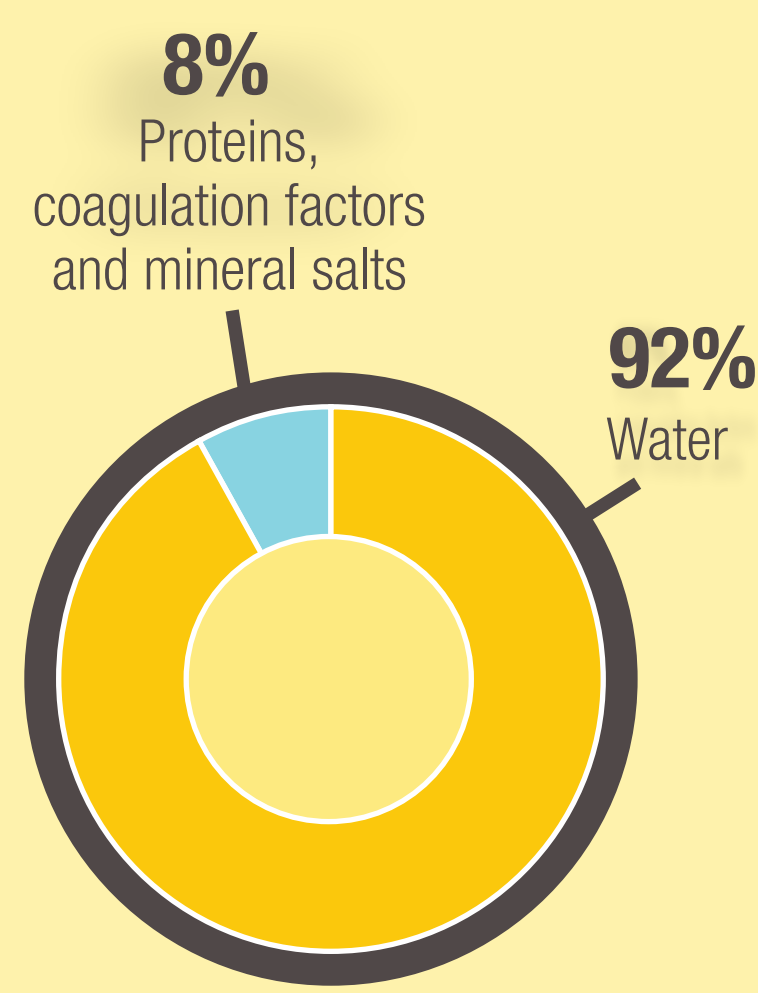
Liquids loss

The lost volume of liquid will be reintegrated in the donor through fluid intakes before and after the sampling.



Blood composition

Blood is mainly composed of plasma (about 55%) that is its liquid part, red blood cells (about 41%) and the remaining part of white blood cells and platelets (only 4%).



Plasma composition

Plasma is mainly composed of water (about 92%) and several important proteins (8%), including albumin, immunoglobulins, coagulation factors, etc.

The donation of plasma plays a fundamental role in the treatment of many chronic diseases, including several rare diseases.

Many **genetic disorders** can be treated only through the administration of plasma or of active substances coming from it.

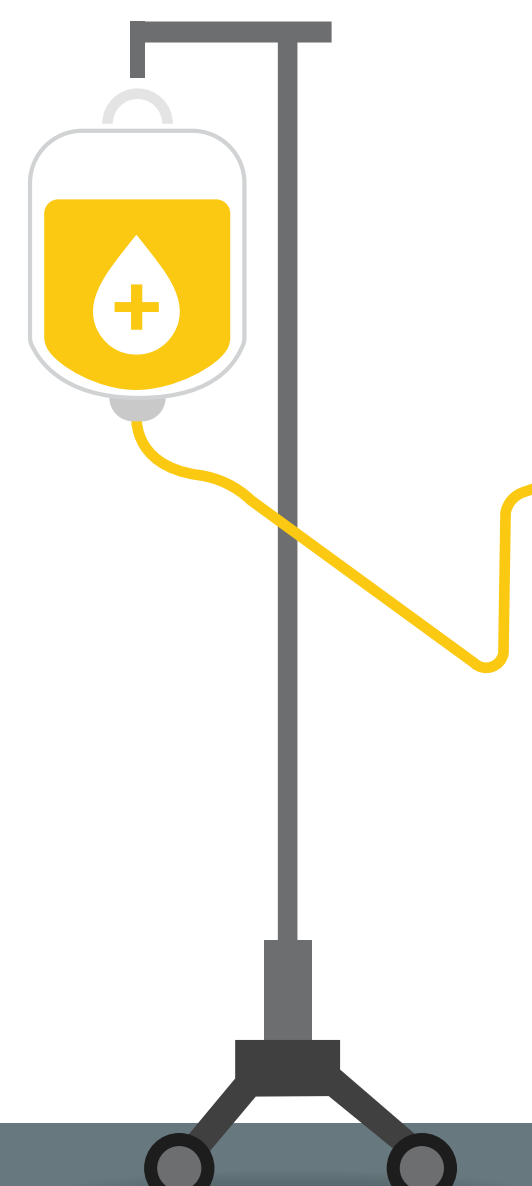
Coagulation factors

They are used for the treatment of haemophilia and other congenital haemorrhagic disorders.

Immunoglobulins

They are used for the treatment of primitive immunodeficiencies and of many neurological disorders.

The congenital deficiencies of Alpha1-Antitrypsin, Antithrombin, C1 inhibitor, plasminogen are other examples of rare pathologies benefiting from these medicinal products.



Plan your donation

In order to donate plasma, it is important to arrange the donation with the Associations (AVIS, Red Cross, FRATRES, FIDAS) on the basis of the regional and national planning.