

**Media Release****Local Not-For-Profit Hosts 'Plasma Party'*****International Plasma Awareness Week 2-6 October 2023***

In recognition of International Plasma Awareness Week, Immune Deficiencies Foundation Australia (IDFA) is joining forces with Lifeblood Australia to host their very own 'Plasma Party' at the Wollongong donor centre on Tuesday, 3 October.

What is a 'Plasma Party'?

It's a way for IDFA and Lifeblood to highlight the need for plasma donations within the area. It aims to bring the community together and support those in need. Donors will have the opportunity to meet recipient and hear firsthand the impact their donation has made on other people's lives. The purpose is to close the circle and highlight the importance of donations.

Immune Deficiencies Foundation Australia CEO Carolyn Dews said thousands of its members depend on the kindness and dedication of plasma donors to maintain their health.

"Every year it takes on average 130 plasma donations to treat one person with a primary immunodeficiency, and one in 1,000 people are estimated to be impacted by primary immunodeficiencies."

Plasma offers individuals safeguarding through its disease-fighting antibodies, which effectively shield against a variety of infections.

Plasma-derived medications are employed in the treatment of more than 50 severe medical conditions. Immunoglobulin (Ig) is one of these medicines and is required by over 13,300 Australians each month to manage acute or chronic conditions to sustain their quality of life.

IDFA extends an invitation to local community members to join the 'Plasma Party' and participate in community enrichment.

To represent the colour of plasma, we kindly request that all attendees wear YELLOW attire.

**Details**

**What:** #IDFALifeblood Plasma Party

**When:** Tuesday, 3 October from 11am-1pm

**Where:** Lifeblood Wollongong, 1/45-53 Kembla St, Wollongong NSW 2500

**How to participate**

If you already have the Lifeblood App (Donate Blood), then jump on there and schedule and appointment during our plasma party (11am – 1pm) – don't forget to join the team #IDFALifeblood.

If you're new to donations, download the app, and make yourself a profile, then schedule and appointment between 11am and 1pm on Tuesday, 3 October. This is also the time to join the team #IDFALifeblood.

Alternatively, if you are unable to donate for any reason, IDFA would still love for you to come along on the day, support them, meet their members, and enjoy coffee and cake!

ENDS

**Contact:**

Danae Pikkat | [danae@idfa.org.au](mailto:danae@idfa.org.au) | 0498 070 226

Carolyn Dews | [carolyn@idfa.org.au](mailto:carolyn@idfa.org.au) | 0455 086 556

**NOTES FOR MEDIA**

**Immune Deficiency Foundation Australia (IDFA)**

[IDFA](#) is a national not-for-profit and leading peak organisation dedicated to improving the lives of those affected by immunodeficiencies. The organisation provides support and resources to individuals, families, and healthcare professionals and works to raise awareness about these conditions.

**Australian Red Cross Lifeblood**

Australian governments fund Lifeblood to provide blood, blood products and services to the Australian community. This is possible through the support of more than half a million voluntary blood donors. For more information or to make a donation, call 13 14 95 or visit [www.lifeblood.com.au](http://www.lifeblood.com.au)