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INSIGHT



Free Blood?

Have you ever wondered why people are not being paid when they donor their blood and yet, hospitals charge patients for transfusing blood bags?

Before we go into that, you need to know that there are three models used to provide blood to patients: volunteer, paid and family/replacement. Countries around the world differ on which methods are used most often. According to WHO, of 135 countries surveyed, "79 countries collect over 90% of their blood supply from voluntary unpaid blood donors."

Donated blood can't go straight to a patient's veins, there are steps to be taken and these steps costs money. According to the Red Cross organization, they include staffing, testing, equipment, advertising, storage and quality control among others. In simpler words, what patients pay is not the blood itself, but the costs to transfuse it to their bodies.

Speaking of blood donation, surely you know the benefits of it by now. The question is, are you willing to donate yours?



