



**MISSISSIPPI BLOOD SERVICES**  
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## Are You My Type?

### Are You My Type?

I may be a sickle cell patient....

I may be a leukemia patient....

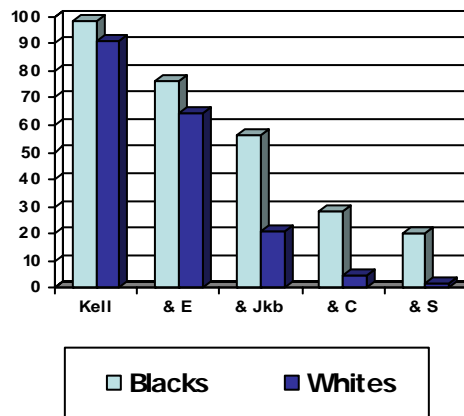
I may be a cancer patient....

I am a black patient who relies on continuous blood transfusions to survive.

### Are You My Type?

I need special donors because my body has made antibodies to the donor blood I have previously received. Antibodies are proteins in my blood that are normally beneficial (they help fight off germs like the flu virus). But now my body tries to fight off the donor blood, which is why I need specifically matched donors.

Most people know about the ABO (type A, B, AB or O) and the Rh (positive or negative) blood groups. But there are actually 30 different groups, and I need to be matched for several of these other blood groups.



As you can see in the chart, when I made my first antibody it was still pretty easy to match me with both black and white donors. But now that I have all of these antibodies there are virtually no white donors that match me; however, one in five black donors may have my blood type.

### Are You My Type?

*Will you donate blood today and become my special partner in life?*

Joann M. Moulds PhD, MT(ASCP)SBB  
Director of Clinical Immunogenetics, LifeShare Blood Centers

