

MODELLING DONOR RESTRICTIONS IN THE AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS BLOOD SERVICE

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Abstract

This paper presents a case study of System Dynamics Modelling conducted for the Australian Red Cross Blood Service (ARCBS). The ARCBS is responsible for the collection and distribution of all blood products to the Australian hospital system. Restrictions to eligible donors, such as those associated with cVJD (known as Man Cow Disease), had a profound, and in part unexpected, impact on the existing donor base and on the recruitment of new donors. A new set of restrictions related to the required haemoglobin level of donors was instituted by the Therapeutic Goods Authority (TGA). The ARCBS decided to use System Dynamics Modelling to capture the impact of the new restrictions on the donor base. The model demonstrated that the impact was far greater than had been expected and for the basis for a change in policy.

PLEASE REFER ANY ENQUIRIES ABOUT THIS WORKING PAPER TO THE AUTHOR

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