

ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted at National Blood Center to assess the TTI status and clinico-socio-demographic characteristics of blood donors attended during the last week of September and first week of October, 2010.

A total of 1,338 blood donors were studied and 10.2 percent of these donors (137 from 1,338) were deferred. The most common reasons for deferral were TTI (27 from 137; 19.7%), low Hb level (24 from 137; 17.5%) and high blood pressure (22 from 137; 16.1%). Male donors were mainly deferred due to TTI and high blood pressure whereas female donors were mainly deferred because of low Hb level.

The mean age of blood donors was 29.81 years; the youngest donor being 17 years and the oldest being 63 years. The most frequently donated groups were 18-25 years, male, blood group O, private employees and graduated people. The proportion of voluntary donors in this study was 96.6 percent.

The TTI seropositivity revealed in this study was 2.1 percent (27 out of 1,338 donors). HBV positivity in this study revealed 1.6 percent (21 from 1,338) and HCV positivity was 0.1 percent (only in one donor). Syphilis infection was found in five blood donors during this study (0.4%). There was no HIV seropositivity or co-infection seen in this study. The seropositivity rate was significantly 6.6 times higher in new donors than repeated donors.

Hepatitis B was the most commonly found TTI among blood donors in this study. It was mostly found in 18-25 years age group, male and first-time blood donors. Hepatitis B seropositivity was found to be significantly higher in 18-25 years age group and in first-time donors.