

**SINDH ACT NO.I OF 1997**  
**THE SINDH TRANSFUSION OF SAFE BLOOD ACT, 1997.**

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[25<sup>th</sup> July, 1997]

*An Act to regulate Transfusion of Safe Blood and Blood Products.*

**WHEREAS** it is expedient to regulate transfusion of safe and healthy blood and blood products free from viruses and infective agents and to provide for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto;

**Preamble.**

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Sindh Transfusion of Safe Blood Act, 1997.

**Short title, extent and commencement.**

(2) It shall extend to the whole of the Province of Sindh.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context: —

**Definitions.**

(a) "Authority" means the Provincial Blood Transfusion Authority established under section 5;

(b) "blood bank" includes all organisations carrying out all or any of the purposes of receiving, preserving, storing analysing screening, processing and issuing blood and blood products whether maintained by Government or private sector;

(c) "Government" means the Government of Sindh;

(d) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

(e) "safe blood" means human blood which is healthy and free from human Immunodeficiency (HIV), Hepatitis Band C viruses or infective agents, like malarial parasites and trepe-nema pallidum (syphilis) or such other viruses or infective agents (S Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, specify.

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3. Every physician, surgeon, medical practitioner or any other qualified person transfusing blood or blood product to any patient shall, before such transfusion, ensure in the prescribed manner that the blood or as the case may be blood product, is healthy and free from any virus or infection specified in clause (e) of section 2. **Transfusion of safe blood.**

4. (1) No blood bank shall receive or supply blood unless it is registered with the Authority and holds a licence issued to it by the Authority on payment of such fee as may be prescribed. **Registration of blood banks.**

(2) No blood bank shall be registered unless it conforms to the prescribed conditions of registration.

5. (1) As soon as may be after the commencement of this Act Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, establish, an authority to be known as the Provincial Blood Transfusion Authority consisting of: — **Establishment of Authority.**

(i)	Director General, Health Services, Government of Sindh.	Chairman
(ii)	Additional Secretary (Technical) Health Department.	Member
(iii)	Provincial Programme Manager for Blood Transfusion Services.	Member/ Secretary
(iv)	Director, Blood Transfusion Services, Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre, Karachi.	Member
(v)	Director, Blood Transfusion Services, Agha Khan University Hospital, Karachi.	Member
(vi)	Chairman, Pakistan Association of Blood Bank (Sindh).	Member
(vii)	A representative of the Fatmid Foundation.	Member
(viii)	A representative of the Hussaini Blood Bank.	Member

(2) The Members other than ex-officio members shall, unless Government otherwise, directly hold office for a period of two years.

(3) Such members may by writing under his hand addressed to Government resign his office.

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6. The functions of the Authority shall be:— **Function of the Authority.**
- (a) to adopt/develop uniform policy covering all aspects of safe blood transfusion based on current developments in the field;
  - (b) to register and issue licences to blood banks in the prescribed manner;
  - (c) to fix service charges of the blood and blood products;
  - (d) to ensure that prescribed bio-safety measures and the instructions issued by the World Health Organization in this behalf are strictly adhered to by the blood banks;
  - (e) to ensure that the blood banks are managed and run by qualified professionals having post graduate qualifications in blood transfusion, hematology or clinical pathology recognised by the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council;
  - (f) to monitor the working of the blood banks and carry out periodical inspection;
  - (g) to perform any other functions related to the matters aforesaid.
7. Every blood bank shall: — **Responsibilities of blood banks.**
- (a) have a separate department, staff and equipments for the purpose of blood donations and for selection, handling care and safety of the donors;
  - (b) select donors of blood in accordance with the instructions issued by the Authority;
  - (c) cause the donated blood and blood products to be screened examined and tested in accordance with the World Health: Organization's instructions issued for detection of any communicable disease;
  - (d) possess equipment required for hemoglobin estimation, blood grouping, cross matching, anti-bodies detection and screening of infective agents, such as human immunodeficiency, hepatitis viruses, malaria and syphilis;

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- (e) equip itself with proper refrigeration of blood and blood products and make arrangements for uninterrupted power supply for refrigeration;
  - (f) observe standard operation procedures approved by the Authority and more particularly as may be prescribed;
  - (g) prohibit acceptance of blood from professional blood donors; and
  - (h) submit periodical reports in respect of detection of anti-bodies and screening of infective agents.
8. Government may, for the purpose of creating awareness for availability of safe blood and motivation for voluntary blood donations, set up a Provincial Blood Transfusion Committee consisting of philanthropists, social workers and other such persons as it may deem appropriate. **Provincial Blood Transfusion Committee.**
9. Any person contravening the provisions of this Act shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to two years, or with fine upto five hundred thousand rupees, or with both. **Penalty for Contravention.**
10. No court shall take cognizance of any contravention under this Act, except on a complaint in writing made by the Chairman of the Authority or a person authorized by him. **Cognizance of the contravention.**
11. Government may by notification in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act. **Rules.**