**Adverse weather has severe impact on Blood Supply**

Tuesday 6th March 2018

The IBTS has today (Tuesday) asked that donors make a special effort to give blood, after clinics nationwide were cancelled due to the impact of Storm Emma.

“The national blood supply has been severely depleted over the last week as we have been unable to hold clinics, but we have continued to supply hospitals. As of this morning, we have just 3 days supply on average across all groups and just 2 days in O negative. We will be unable to guarantee supply to hospitals unless there is a significant increase in donations over the coming weeks to make up the shortfall," said IBTS Operations Director Paul McKinney.

“With St Patrick’s Day bank holiday weekend fast approaching and Easter on the horizon, we have limited time to get the blood supply stabilised so we are asking blood donors to make a special effort to give blood over the coming weeks when there is a clinic in their area which will help to restore blood supplies. We are aiming to collect 7,000 donations between now and St Patrick’s weekend”

“In addition to normal clinics, the IBTS is running 4 additional Sunday clinics on 11th March, these are in Waterford city, Drogheda, County Louth and Celbridge, County Kildare and Doon, Co Limerick.”

All clinic details are available on www.giveblood.ie

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