

Blood transfusions

Worksheet D

Plasma

Everybody thinks that blood is red but the truth is that it's only the red blood cells that make it appear that way. Take them away (and the other cellular components) and you're left with plasma, a yellow coloured fluid that carries all blood cells. We process this to extract other products such as:

- **Albumin**
This protein is really useful when treating anyone who's been severely shocked or burned, or anyone who's lost large amounts of blood.
- **Clotting factors**
One of the major agents in plasma is Factor VIII. It helps anyone whose blood doesn't clot properly.

From: www.blood.co.uk