**Media Release** 

Date 8 August 2012

**Berri Hospital places 200,000th order for blood**

Everything is available online these days – even blood.

Patients in Berri Hospital who require blood have benefited from the national roll-out of Australia’s first online system for ordering blood, known as BloodNet.

And on Wednesday (8/8/12), the team who manage blood orders for the hospital will be honoured for being the first in Australia to place the magic 200,000th order using BloodNet.

This major milestone in the roll out of BloodNet will be celebrated with a morning tea – featuring a locally baked celebratory cake – and a special plaque for display in the Berri Hospital pathology laboratory.

Berri joins the rest of Australia in adopting BloodNet, which has been developed for use in both public and private hospitals to get much-needed blood supplies to patients.

BloodNet operates behind the scenes to ensure patients get the blood they need, whether they need it for planned treatments or emergency surgery.

BloodNet allows hospital pathology laboratories to order blood matched to patients using an online system that is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

It is operated by the National Blood Authority, an independent statutory authority responsible to all Governments for ensuring Australia has a safe and reliable blood supply.

The national roll-out of BloodNet has been gathering speed since 2010 when Governments approved it be implemented Australia-wide.

It replaces the previous system of hospital pathology staff faxing or phoning orders for blood to the nearest Australian Red Cross Blood Service, which then despatches blood to hospitals based on the blood type and amounts needed.

BloodNet is now used to place 85 per cent of orders by volume in Australian hospitals, including at all public and private hospitals in South Australia.

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**Photo Opportunity**

**When:** 9am Wednesday 8 August 2012

**Where:** Berri Hospital Pathology laboratory

**What:** Presentation by the National Blood Authority to SA Pathology staff at Berri Hospital

**Why:** Berri Hospital placed the 200,000th order nationally using a new online service for ordering blood into Australian hospitals, known as BloodNet.