6700 - Rewards for donating blood

the question

The blood bank gives gifts to blood donors, such as prayer-rugs, key-rings or some money. Please tell us what Islam says about these gifts.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

It is not permissible to sell blood, because of the report in Saheeh al-Bukhaari from the hadeeth of Abu Hudhayfah, who said: “I saw my father buy a cupper [a person who does cupping] and order that his tools be broken. I asked him about that and he said, ‘The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) forbade the price of blood, ...’” (Al-Bukhaari, 3/12,43; Ahmad, 4/308, 309). Al-Haafiz said in al-Fath: what is meant by the prohibition of blood is the same as the prohibition of dead meat and pork. It is haraam according to scholarly consensus, i.e., selling blood and taking its price. And Allaah knows best.