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## Tamil Nadu

## Jeevan blood bank launches Nucleic Acid Testing

Special Correspondent

CHENNAI: Jeevan, a not for profit community blood bank situated in Chennai and managed by a Board of Trustees, has launched NAT (Nucleic Acid Testing) to detect viral DNA/RNA in every unit of donated blood for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV.

In a release, P. Srinivasan, chairman and managing trustee, Jeevan, said at a small additional cost, NAT would ensure that safe blood was available to all. Saranya Nandakumar, Medical Director, Jeevan, adds that by reducing the window period through NAT testing, it will be able to identify and exclude those blood units that would otherwise remain undetected by the currently recommended mandatory tests.

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