



Advancing Transfusion and
Cellular Therapies Worldwide

April 9, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

AABB urges you to collaborate with your blood supplier by identifying and referring recovered COVID-19 patients for donation of COVID-19 convalescent plasma (CCP), a promising treatment for COVID-19 patients that was recently identified by FDA as one of several high-priority initiatives.

As you may be aware, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is permitting the use of CCP as an investigational treatment for patients with moderate or severe COVID-19 infection. The supply of CCP is limited right now since very few people are eligible donors, but blood collectors across the nation are doing everything they can do quickly increase the supply to make it widely available to hospitals and their patients.

Blood collectors need your clinicians' help to educate patients on the need for CCP donations, identify prospective donors and refer individuals to local blood collectors for evaluation. Ideally, CCP donors have been symptom-free for 28 days or may have received a negative test for COVID-19 to demonstrate a full recovery. In addition, donors must satisfy standard requirements for all blood donors. AABB recently launched a website – [COVIDPlasma.org](https://www.aabb.org/COVIDPlasma.org) – which includes information for individuals interested in donating CCP. Please refer potential donors to [AABB's blood bank locator](#) so they can contact a nearby AABB-accredited blood donation site.

Hospitals will be able to administer CCP to patients with COVID-19 under one of the FDA-approved pathways for this investigational new drug (IND), including: (1) the national expanded access protocol offered by Mayo Clinic; (2) a patient-specific emergency IND; or (3) other investigator initiated INDs (i.e., a different clinical trial). AABB's new publicly available educational resource, [COVIDPlasma.org](https://www.aabb.org/COVIDPlasma.org), provides the healthcare community with details on each of these options.

AABB is proud that members of our community – including blood centers, hospital blood collectors, and transfusion medicine services – are central to bringing CCP from donors to the bedside. However, in order to make CCP widely available, the blood community needs your help with educating individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 on how their plasma can be used as an investigational treatment for certain patients with COVID-19, and referring interested individuals to [local blood donation centers](#).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact AABB at publicrelations@aabb.org.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Debra S. BenAvram'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Debra' being more prominent.

Debra S. BenAvram
AABB CEO