

Donating Plasma after Recovery from Coronavirus (COVID-19)

People who have fully recovered from COVID-19 have antibodies in their plasma that can attack the virus. Plasma is the liquid portion of your blood. Convalescent plasma is the term used for plasma that is taken from the blood of a person who has recovered from a disease, then transfused into a patient still battling it. Convalescent plasma is being evaluated as a treatment for patients with serious or immediately life-threatening COVID-19 infections, or those considered to be at high risk of progression to severe or life-threatening disease. Decisions about who is eligible to receive convalescent plasma therapy are made only by healthcare professionals.

Who is eligible to donate plasma?

You may qualify to donate plasma for coronavirus patients if you meet the following convalescent plasma and regular blood donation eligibility requirements:

- You have a prior, verified diagnosis of COVID-19, but are now symptom-free and fully recovered from COVID-19.
- You are at least 17 years old and weigh 110 lbs. Additional weight requirements apply for donors age 18 or younger.
- You are in good health. You generally feel well, even if you're being treated for a chronic condition.

To learn more about who can donate visit [Blood Donation FAQs](#).

If you're fully recovered from a new coronavirus infection and meet the above criteria, visit <https://tinyurl.com/vyz3vwa> and fill out the Donor Eligibility Form at the bottom of the page. A Red Cross representative will follow up with prospective candidates to confirm eligibility

What is the process to collect plasma from my blood?

During a plasma donation, blood is drawn from an arm and sent through a high-tech machine that collects your plasma and then safely and comfortably returns your red cells back to you, along with some saline. Because of this process, donating plasma does take longer than a regular whole blood donation

Where can I learn more?

The following websites provide excellent instructions on COVID-19:

- CDC Coronavirus website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>
- State of Michigan Coronavirus website at: <http://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus>
- Red Cross plasma donations from recovered COVID-19 Patients at: <https://tinyurl.com/vyz3vwa>
- Michigan Medicine Patient Education Page at: <http://careguides.med.umich.edu/coronavirus>
- Michigan Medicine Coronavirus Updates page at: <https://www.uofmhealth.org/covid-19-update>

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by Michigan Medicine for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by Michigan Medicine and for which Michigan Medicine does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan

Adapted from: American Red Cross. *Plasma Donations from Recovered COVID-19 Patients*. Access at: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/dlp/plasma-donations-from-recovered-covid-19-patients.html>.

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