Statement on FDA Announcement of Emergency Use Authorization for CCP

On Sunday, the FDA issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for COVID-19 convalescent plasma (CCP) as a treatment for patients battling COVID-19. CCP has been used as an investigational therapy since it was authorized as such on April 3 by the FDA and is currently the focus of ongoing research to determine its efficacy.

AABB urges the continuation of clinical trials to better understand the efficacy and determine optimal treatment regimens for CCP as a therapeutic option. Thus far, data indicate that CCP may be most effective when given early and that it may reduce mortality in some patients with COVID-19. These early signs are encouraging, and more data will be useful to determine CCP’s full potential.

The AABB community has been leading the effort in CCP collection, distribution and research since the beginning of the pandemic. AABB applauds the heroic work of the dedicated professionals who have helped advance CCP as a treatment option. AABB’s member blood centers have been collecting CCP from individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 since March, transfusion medicine researchers have been leading research to determine CCP’s safety profile and efficacy, and our physician community continues to work on the frontline saving lives.

AABB supports continuing research efforts on CCP, such as the COMPILE trial from New York University. AABB also encourages those who have recovered from COVID-19 to donate CCP at their nearest blood center so that CCP will be a treatment option for patients in need. To find a blood center where CCP can be donated, visit AABB’s Blood Bank Locator.