

**Guidance for the Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, 32<sup>nd</sup> edition**

<b>Reference Standard 5.4.1A – Requirements for Allogeneic Donors</b>		
<b>Category</b>	<b>Criteria/Description/Examples</b>	<b>Deferral period</b>
14) Immunizations and Vaccinations	Receipt of other vaccines, including unlicensed vaccines	12 months unless otherwise indicated by medical director

**Q:** When the SARS CoV-2 vaccine(s) become available under investigational new drug applications, what is the deferral period for potential donors?

**A:** Reference Standard 5.4.1A (14) for unlicensed vaccines requires a 12-month deferral but allows the blood center medical director discretion to implement a shorter or longer deferral period. The BB/TS Standards Committee (BB/TS SC) based upon communications with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is of the opinion that medical directors can consider a shorter deferral period (as short as 14 days from inoculation) for live attenuated vaccines as indicated in the requirement below:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receipt of live attenuated viral and bacterial vaccines [Measles (rubeola), Mumps, Polio (Sabin/oral), Typhoid (oral), Yellow fever]</li> </ul>	2 weeks
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BB/TS SC in communication with FDA also agreed that no deferral is necessary for blood donors who received non-replicating, inactivated or RNA-based vaccines or the mRNA-1273 Moderna vaccine.

**Q:** Can individuals who have received the SARS CoV-2 vaccine donate COVID-19 convalescent plasma (CCP)?

**A:** No. At this time the BB/TS SC, based on feedback from the FDA, does not feel that it would be acceptable for this individual to donate CCP. This is based on the unknowns surrounding the antibody profile of donors who have received the SARS CoV-2 vaccine and CCP product efficacy.

**Q:** Can individuals who have recovered from SARS COV-2 and received CCP donate blood and CCP?

**A:** Yes, however, since CCP is a blood component, they would be deferred for three months from the date of the last transfusion per BB/TS Reference Standard 5.4.1A (12).

This guidance is based upon the latest information. BB/TS SC will continue to provide additional information as it becomes available.