



Advancing Transfusion and
Cellular Therapies Worldwide



American
Red Cross

Joint Statement: Blood Community Encourages Individuals to Donate Blood, Convalescent Plasma During National Blood Donor Month and Beyond

The following statement has been issued by AABB, America's Blood Centers and the American Red Cross regarding the status of the nation's blood supply:

January is National Blood Donor Month and the blood community thanks those individuals who selflessly donate blood, platelets, and convalescent plasma to provide life-saving treatments for patients. Through the generosity of donors, health care providers are able to deliver life-saving treatments to patients in need.

This National Blood Donor Month faces challenges unlike any other as the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause disruptions in blood collections and unprecedented fluctuations in the supply and demand for blood products. Blood centers throughout the country continue to collect blood despite this difficult time for our nation and the world. Right now, convalescent plasma from those who have recovered from COVID-19 is essential as a treatment option for those hospitalized with and currently battling COVID-19. Blood collection organizations distributed more than 100,000 units of convalescent plasma in December to health care providers. As COVID-19 cases continue to rise in the U.S., the need for additional donors remains.

This January, AABB, America's Blood Centers, and the American Red Cross join together to urge all eligible individuals to make and keep an appointment to donate blood and convalescent plasma now to ensure critical treatment options are always available for patients when needed.

Please contact one of the following organizations to find a local blood collection site and to schedule an appointment to donate:

AABB: www.aabb.org; +1.301.907.6977

America's Blood Centers: www.americasblood.org; +1.202.393.5725

American Red Cross: www.redcrossblood.org; +1.800.RED CROSS (+1.800.733.2767)

Blood collection organizations follow the highest standards of safety and infection control. To ensure optimal safety during the pandemic, social distancing measures and increased infection control protocols remain in place. Donors are required to wear a face covering while giving blood, platelets, and convalescent plasma. In addition, donation appointments are strongly encouraged to appropriately manage donor flow and ensure social distancing precautions are followed.