WANTED: PLASMA DONATIONS FROM RECOVERED COVID-19 PATIENTS

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS OF INDIAN ORIGIN
The Red Cross is seeking people who are fully recovered from COVID-19 and may be able to donate plasma to help current patients with serious or immediately life-threatening COVID-19 infections, or those judged by a healthcare provider to be at high risk of progression to severe or life-threatening disease. People who have fully recovered from COVID-19 have antibodies in their plasma that can attack the virus. This convalescent plasma is being evaluated as treatment for patients seriously ill with COVID-19. The Red Cross has been asked by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to help identify prospective donors and manage the distribution of these products to hospitals treating patients in need. If you’re fully recovered from a verified coronavirus (COVID-19) diagnosis, please refer to the website below for more information regarding:

1. Potential Donor who has had COVID-19 and are fully recovered
2. Clinician who is interested in receiving convalescent plasma, or want to refer potential donors.

For Physicians: Investigational COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma - Emergency INDs.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) plays a critical role in protecting the United States from public health threats including the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. FDA is committed to doing everything we can to provide timely response efforts to this pandemic and facilitate access to investigational drugs for use in patients with serious or immediately life-threatening COVID-19 infections.

One investigational treatment being explored for COVID-19 is the use of convalescent plasma collected from individuals who have recovered from COVID-19. It is possible that convalescent plasma that contains antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) might be effective against the infection. Use of convalescent plasma has been studied in outbreaks of other respiratory infections, including the 2009-2010 H1N1 influenza virus pandemic, 2003 SARS-CoV-1 epidemic, and the 2012 MERS-CoV epidemic.
Although promising, convalescent plasma has not yet been shown to be effective in COVID-19. It is therefore important to determine through clinical trials, before routinely administering convalescent plasma to patients with COVID-19, that it is safe and effective to do so. Please refer to the website below regarding pathways available for administering or studying the use of COVID-19 convalescent plasma.

Any questions please email aapicovidplasmasmadonor@gmail.com

Sudhakar Jonnalagadda, MD, AGAF
President of American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI)

Madhavi Gorusu, M.D., M.B.A
President of Connecticut Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (CAPI)