



## COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK

**If you believe you have an active virus, please do not present to donate blood.  
You must be 14 days symptom-free to donate blood.**

### **Q. What is Convalescent Plasma?**

**A.** The Community Blood Bank is seeking potential COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma (CCP) donors to help increase the area supply of this important treatment. CCP is a plasma donation that also contains the SARS-CoV-2 antibodies within the plasma. Transfusing these antibodies through plasma is one of the approved treatments for patients hospitalized with COVID-19.

### **Q. What is an Antibody Test?**

**A.** An antibody test looks for evidence that your body has produced antibodies against a certain virus. The test is meant to determine whether you MAY have had previous exposure to SARS-CoV-2, the virus known to cause COVID-19. Additionally, a positive test result does not guarantee immunity from COVID-19. For a full assessment of previous exposure to SARS-CoV-2, please consult your primary physician.

- **An antibody test is NOT a COVID-19 test.**
- **An antibody test is NOT the nasal swab patients receive to test for COVID-19.**
- **An antibody test does NOT diagnose COVID-19.**
- **Donors who feel unwell or who are displaying symptoms of any illness are not eligible to donate and should not present to Community Blood Bank.**

### **Q. What does an Antibody Test tell me?**

**A.** Antibody testing will help identify potential convalescent plasma donors, based on the presence of antibodies in the donor's system. Those donors who test positive for antibodies may become CCP donors if all other eligibility requirements are met.

The Community Blood Bank is NOT conducting antibody testing to diagnose COVID-19, and a positive antibody test results do not confirm infection or immunity; a positive antibody test indicates potential prior exposure to the virus.

### **Q. How long do I have to come donate if I would like to receive an antibody test?**

**A.** The Community Blood Bank is offering antibody testing now through November 30, 2020.

### **Q. What is the process to receive the antibody test?**

**A. *APPOINTMENTS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED.*** Please call 814-456-4206 to schedule your appointment to donate before presenting to your local blood drive or the Erie Donor Center. Please mention to the front desk staff or your phlebotomist you are interested in receiving an antibody test when you arrive at one of our blood collection locations.



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You must read the educational information, complete the donor history questionnaire and will then be screened by a phlebotomist (the same process as the donation process for donation type).

The addition of the antibody test will not add any time to your donation.

From that donation, your blood will be tested for the SARS-CoV-2 Antibody. If positive, your sample will be tested a second time for confirmation. If your sample tests positive twice, you will receive a positive result for the Antibody Test. A short time later, a CBB staff member will contact you to discuss your interest in and eligibility to give COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma.

### **Q. How do I get my test results?**

**A.** The results from your antibody test will be posted to your secure individual donor account, available to view through our secure online portal. This is accessed from the Community Blood Bank website, [fourhearts.org](http://fourhearts.org). You will need your donor ID number to access your account.

### **Q. When will I get my test results?**

**A.** Results will be available up to 4 weeks from your donation date.

### **Q. I got deferred, can I still get the test?**

**A.** No

### **Q. I didn't get a full pint, do I still get a test?**

**A.** No

**This is not a diagnostic test for COVID-19. The test is meant to determine whether you *MAY* have had previous exposure to SARS-CoV-2, the virus known to cause COVID-19. Additionally, a positive test result does not guarantee immunity from COVID-19. For a full assessment of previous exposure to SARS-CoV-2, please consult your primary physician.**