

Updated 03/26/20

AABB-Accredited Blood Donor Centers Focus on Donor Safety First

AABB-accredited blood donor centers are:

- Required to follow AABB Standards to protect donor safety.
- Taking donor safety seriously as they respond to evolving concerns related to coronavirus.
- Following [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Interim Infection Control Guidance on COVID-19 for Personnel at Blood and Plasma Collection Facilities](#)
- Implementing additional donor safety measures to further protect donors.

Communicating a commitment to keep donors safe is key. AABB encourages blood centers to provide online education material regarding your focus on donor safety and the decision to implement additional measures to protect donors. When facilities implement these additional safety measures – let donors know!

The following safety measure considerations will help protect donors, demonstrate that donor safety is a priority and ensure confidence in the process.

- ✓ Follow a donation-by-appointment-only policy.
- ✓ Limit donor center access to individuals with appointments who are not accompanied by others.
- ✓ Take the temperature of each individual at the time of arrival at the blood center.
- ✓ Ask donors to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before and after donation.
- ✓ Reconfigure public areas, if possible, to allow for 6 feet of separation between staff and donors.
- ✓ Arrange seating for prospective donors in the waiting area approximately 6 feet apart prior to implementing donor questionnaire.
- ✓ Adjust the physical configuration of the donor cots during blood collection so that donors are approximately 6 feet apart.
- ✓ Duplicate this strategy for increased spacing on bloodmobiles by limiting collections to only two donors at a time.
- ✓ Consider asking prospective donors to wait outside of the center, if doing so can be accomplished while observing the recommended distance of 6 feet of separation between the donor and others, and to await a text message or phone call.
- ✓ Follow procedures for cleaning and disinfecting all areas and increase the frequency, such as cleaning the donor bed and other surfaces in the collection area after each donor.
- ✓ Increase the frequency for cleaning and disinfecting the donor screening and refreshment areas, restrooms, doorknobs and other surfaces.

- ✓ Empty waste bins frequently.
- ✓ Serve each donor individually wrapped snacks and drinks, limiting exposure to the supply, rather than allowing all donors access to the supply of snacks and drinks.