



## **Donor SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Testing Fact Sheet**

You are being given this Fact Sheet because your blood donation will be tested for the SARS-CoV-2 antibodies to the virus that causes Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The Coastal Bend Blood Center is temporarily offering this antibody test as a courtesy to all blood donors on a one-time basis.

This fact sheet contains information to help you understand the testing. After reading this fact sheet, if you have questions or would like to discuss the information provided, please talk with your healthcare provider.

### **What is COVID-19?**

COVID-19 is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The virus, which can cause mild to severe respiratory illness, was first identified in Wuhan, China, and has now spread globally, including the United States. There is limited information available to characterize the spectrum of clinical illness associated with COVID-19 but it likely spreads to others when a person shows signs or symptoms of being sick (e.g., fever, coughing, sneezing, difficulty breathing, etc.).

### **Why was my blood donation tested?**

Testing of your blood donation will help find out if you have antibodies to the virus that causes COVID-19.

### **What does it mean if I have a positive test result?**

If you have a positive test result, it is very likely that you previously had been exposed to the virus causing COVID-19 and that you have developed an antibody response to the

virus. There is also the small possibility that the test can give a positive result that is wrong (a false positive result).

### **What does it mean if I have a negative test result?**

A negative test result means that antibodies to the virus that causes COVID-19 were not found in your sample. However, it is possible for this test to give a negative result that is incorrect (false negative) in some people.

### **What is the Convalescent COVID-19 Plasma Program?**

The Coastal Bend Blood Center has a program in place for the collection of Convalescent COVID-19 Plasma.

Since the beginning of this program with the help of recovered COVID-19 patients, such as yourself, the blood center has been able to assist local hospitals in the treatment of many critically hospitalized COVID-19 patients. With the continued increase in cases and hospitalizations in the Coastal Bend, the blood center is in great need of Convalescent Plasma donations.

If you would like to participate in the program, please visit the Convalescent Plasma section on the blood center website at: [www.coastalbendbloodcenter.org](http://www.coastalbendbloodcenter.org).

**Irrespective of your test results please continue to follow all recommended precautions. For the most up to date information on COVID-19 please visit the CDC Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) webpage:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19>