



PSMID Guidance on the Timing of Blood Donation among Donors Who Received COVID-19 Vaccines

What is the recommended deferral period for blood donors who received COVID-19 vaccines?

| Type of COVID19 vaccine | Reaction | Deferral period based on literature | | | | Suggested deferral period for DOH National Voluntary Blood Services Program (NVBSP) |
|--|---|---|--|---|----------------------------|---|
| | | (Health Sciences Authority, n.d.) | (Advancing Transfusion and cellular therapies Worldwide, 2021) | (US Food and Drug Administration, 2021) | (American Red Cross, N.d.) | |
| Inactivated, viruses, Subunits of vaccines, or vaccines that do not contain live agents, non replicating | None | 3 days after vaccination | Can donate blood anytime | no waiting period | No deferral time | Accept anytime if donor is asymptomatic No deferral |
| | Side effects <i>excluding</i> fever, muscle ache, joint pain and rash | 1 week after side effects are resolved | NA | NA | NA | 4 weeks after side effects have resolved |
| | Side effects such as fever, muscle ache, joint pain and rash | 4 weeks after side effects are resolved | NA | NA | NA | 4 weeks after side effects have resolved |

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|----------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---------|---|
| Vector based, Live attenuated | None | 4 weeks after vaccination | 14 days from after receipt of vaccine | 14 days from after receipt of vaccine | 2 weeks | 4 weeks after vaccination |
| | With side effects <i>excluding</i> fever, muscle ache, joint pain and rash | 1 week after side effects are resolved If the SE are resolved in less than 4 weeks, donors must still wait for 4 weeks after vaccination before they can donate blood | NA | | | 4 weeks after side effects are resolved |
| | With side effects such as fever, muscle ache, joint pain and rash | 4 weeks after side effects are resolved | NA | | | 4 weeks after side effects are resolved |
| Uncertain | None | | 14 days after receipt of the vaccine | 14 days after receipt of the vaccine | 2 weeks | 4 weeks after vaccination |

What information do I need to provide to the blood bank?

Donors are required to provide information about their vaccination – date of vaccination and brand of vaccine, ,and any side effects, as part of the donation prescreening process

Why is there a longer waiting period for live-attenuated virus vaccine?

The 4-week waiting period for live-attenuated vaccine is due to patient safety consideration. This is because blood from a recently vaccinated donor may contain an infective agent which although not harmful to the donor, may theoretically pose a risk to patients who are immune-suppressed or immunocompromised such as cancer patients.

References:

Advancing Transfusion and cellular therapies Worldwide. (2021, February 12). Updated information on donation of CCP, blood components, and HCT/Pls during the COVID19 Pandemic. Retrieved from: https://www.aabb.org/docs/default-source/defaultdocument-library/regulatory/summary-of-blood-donor-deferral-following-covid-19-vaccine-and-ccptransfusion.pdf?sfvrsn=91eddb5d_14.

American Red Cross. (N.d.). COVID-19 vaccine and blood donor eligibility information: what to know about the coronavirus and blood Donation. Retrieved from: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/dlp/coronavirus--covid-19--and-blood-donation.html>.

Health Sciences Authority. (N.d.). COVID19 vaccine and blood donation. Retrieved from: <https://www.hsa.gov.sg/blood-donation/covid-19-vaccine>.

US Food and Drug Administration. (2021, January 19). Updated information for blood establishments regarding the COVID19 pandemic and blood donation: vaccines, blood and biologics. Retrieved from: https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/safetyavailability-biologics/updated-information-blood-establishments-regarding-covid-19-pandemic-and-blood-donation?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery.

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