Plasma, Please!

Medicines created from source plasma are vital for patients with CIDP, primary immunodeficiencies, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, hemophilia, shock, severe burns, organ transplants, and other conditions.

Source plasma is collected from healthy people and used to create very specialized medicines. People all over the world rely on medicine created from source plasma to live, including patients with CIDP, primary immunodeficiencies, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, hemophilia, shock, severe burns, organ transplants, and other conditions.

Currently, companies that manufacture the therapies needed by our patient community – and hundreds of thousands of people across the world – are reporting a sharp decrease in the number of people who are donating plasma. This shortage creates a direct threat to the health and wellness of our patient population, who are treated with immunoglobulin (lg).

We are asking for healthy adults to consider donating plasma. Chances are, you know someone who depends on source plasma donations to live. So what can you do for them?

Plasma, Please.

This is your chance to make a difference in their life while also helping countless others across the world.

Questions?

Does it hurt?

Plasma donors often compare the feeling to a bee sting!

What is plasma?

Plasma is a component of your blood. When removed from red blood cells, it looks like a strawcolored liquid and contains antibodies, proteins, water, etc.



Who can donate?

Healthy adults! Donors need to weigh at least 110 lbs (50kg) and pass a physical/health history exam.

Do you get paid for donating plasma?

In the US, some plasma donation centers offer a fee for your time spent at the center. You will need to inquire with your local center for more detail.



Here's what you need to know about donating plasma:

- There are plasma collection centers all across the US, Canada, and Europe. Find the closest collection center to you at donatingplasma.org. You usually do not need an appointment, but you should confirm that now
- When you arrive to donate plasma, you will present your ID, and first time donors will undergo a physical examination. All plasma donors will give a quick blood sample (finger prick) to check protein levels.
- 3. A thorough health history will be taken.
- 4. Now, assuming everything checks out, you will be ready to donate plasma. The process is called plasmapheresis, and involves a technician placing a needle that connects to a machine that draws blood. The blood will be drawn, and the machine removes the plasma from your blood, and then your blood (without the plasma) is returned to you!
- 5. The whole process takes about 90 minutes (2 hours for new donors), and plasma donors in the US may be compensated for the time they spend donating source plasma. Compensation depends on the plasma center's policies.
- 6. IMPORTANT STEP: The first time you donate plasma, you must return to the center to give a second donation! Otherwise, your first plasma donation can't be used. The purpose of this 2nd donation policy is to verify your initial health screening test results and keep people who use medicine created from source plasma safe.

Find the closest collection center to you at donatingplasma.org.

For questions contact GBS|CIDP Foundation Advocacy Manager, Chelsey Fix at Chelsey.fix@gbs-cidp.org

