

RESOLUTION

Resolution: 104A.20

SUBJECT: Convalescent Plasma Donations
SUBMITTED BY: Medical Association of Atlanta
REFERRED TO: Reference Committee A

1 Whereas, while COVID-19 is having a devastating impact around the world, it is particularly impacting
2 communities of color such as African Americans, who make up an estimated 13.4 percent of the United
3 States population; and
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5 Whereas, certain chronic conditions that disproportionately affect African Americans at a higher rate than
6 their Caucasian counterparts are noted risk factors for more severe COVID-19 cases; for example, high
7 blood pressure is more prevalent by 20 percent in individuals between the ages of 50 to 64, diabetes is 9
8 percent more prevalent, and strokes occur at 3 percent more prevalence; and
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10 Whereas, data has increasingly shown that COVID-19 is disproportionately affecting communities of
11 color, with recent data indicating that the death rate from COVID-19 among African Americans is more
12 than two times greater than expected based on their population share; and
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14 Whereas, individuals with chronic conditions such as cancer, type 2 diabetes, sickle cell, obesity and
15 serious heart conditions, which are disproportionately prevalent among the African American population,
16 are found to be linked to severe illness and negative effects of COVID-19; and
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18 Whereas, we have an opportunity to help individuals suffering from COVID-19 through plasma donations
19 from those who have recovered from the virus as their convalescent plasma contains antibodies that could
20 help the immune system fight the virus; and
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22 Whereas, there is an urgent need for individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 to donate their
23 convalescent plasma as by pooling together convalescent plasma from many recovered donors and
24 concentrating these antibodies into a potential therapy, we may be able to help people at risk for serious
25 complications from COVID-19 better fight the disease; and
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27 Whereas, world-leading companies specializing in plasma-derived therapies are working together to
28 develop a non-branded hyperimmune globulin medicine that has the potential to be one of the earliest
29 treatment options for COVID-19; and
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31 Whereas, we encourage all healthy adults, whether they have recovered from COVID-19 or not, to help
32 save lives by donating plasma because it cannot be made in a lab or by artificial methods; it only comes
33 from healthy adults and is used to make a variety of treatments that help thousands of people with serious
34 and rare diseases, which often have few other treatment options; now therefore be it
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36 **RESOLVED, that the Medical Association of Georgia recognize and communicate the importance**
37 **of convalescent plasma donations for research to create therapies designed to help those at risk of**
38 **severe illness from COVID-19.**

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AMA Policy
None

MAG Policy
None