# TITLE: ANTIBODY-LEVEL BASED ANALYSIS OF COVID-19 CONVALESCENT SERUM (ABACCuS)

NCT04432272

Approval date: 08/26/2020

Protocol and Statistical Analysis Plan

#### PROTOCOL SUMMARY:

Long title: Antibody-level Based Analysis of COVID Convalescent Serum

Short title: ABACCuS

Protocol Date: August 13, 2020

Clinical Phase: Phase 2

**Blinding and Randomization**: Double-Blinded to Antibody Content of Convalescent

Plasma, Not Formally Randomized

IND Sponsor: Beaumont Health

**Conducted by**: Beaumont Health Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak

Beaumont Hospital, Troy

Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe

Beaumont Hospital, Dearborn

Beaumont Hospital, Taylor

Beaumont Hospital, Trenton

Beaumont Hospital, Wayne

Beaumont Hospital, Farmington Hills

Trial Oversight

Matthew Sims, MD PhD, Principal Investigator

Craig Fletcher, MD, Sub-Investigator

Gabriel Maine, MD, Sub-Investigator

Peter Milward, MD, Sub-Investigator

Christopher Carpenter, MD MHSA, Sub-Investigator

Paul Chittick, MD, Sub-Investigator

Richard Kennedy, PhD, Sub-Investigator

Robert Podolsky, PhD, Biostatistician

Deborah Hasenau, RN, MS, Research Director

Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak – Florian Bukovec, MD, Sub-Investigator

Beaumont Hospital, Troy – Sachi Gowda, MD, Sub-Investigator

Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe – Joel Fishbain, MD, Sub-Investigator

Beaumont Hospital, Dearborn – Cecilia Big, MD, Sub-Investigator

Beaumont Hospital, Taylor – Neeraja Varanasi, MD, Sub-Investigator

Beaumont Hospital, Trenton – Faisal Musa, MD, Sub-Investigator

Beaumont Hospital, Wayne – Mustafa Bohra, MD, Sub-Investigator

Beaumont Hospital, Farmington Hills – Wiley Fan, DO, Sub-Investigator

# **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

ADR: Adverse Drug Reaction

ADE: Antibody Dependent Enhancement of infection

AE: Adverse Event/Adverse Experience

CDC: United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CFR: Code of Federal Regulations

CLIA: Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment of 1988

COI: Conflict of Interest

COVID-19: Coronavirus Disease

CRF: Case Report Form

DSMB: Data and Safety Monitoring Board

EMR: Electronic Medical Record EUA: Emergency Use Authorization FDA: Food and Drug Administration

GCP: Good Clinical Practice

HBV: Hepatitis B virus HCV: Hepatitis C virus

HIV: Human immunodeficiency virus HTLV: Human T-cell lymphotropic virus

IB: Investigator's Brochure

ICF: Informed Consent (Informed Consent Form) ICH: International Conference on Harmonization

ICU: Intensive Care Unit

IND: Investigational New Drug Application

IRB: Institutional review board

ISBT: International Society of Blood Transfusion MERS: Middle East Respiratory Syndrome

NP: Nasopharyngeal PI: Principal Investigator

PPE: Personal Protective Equipment

RT-PCR: Reverse Transcriptase Real-Time Polymerase chain reaction

SAE: Serious adverse event

SARS: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

SARS-CoV-2: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2

TACO: Transfusion-associated circulatory overload

TRALI: Transfusion-related acute lung injury

**UP: Unanticipated Problem** 

**Sample Size:** 500 (300 serious but non-intubated patients, 200 intubated patients)

# **Study Population:**

Group A: Hospitalized COVID-19 patients ages ≥18 years with respiratory symptoms, requiring >6L of oxygen to maintain O<sub>2</sub> saturation >92%. Patient may not require intubation, and may be admitted for no longer than 14 days.

Group B: Hospitalized COVID-19 patients ages ≥18 years requiring intubation.

Study Duration: May 15, 2020 to December 31, 2022

Study Design: This phase 2 trial will evaluate the efficacy and safety of SARS-CoV-2 convalescent plasma as treatment for confirmed COVID-19 respiratory disease (as defined in the inclusion criteria). Adults 18 years of age and older may participate. Patients may be enrolled in group A within 14 days of admission to the hospital and may be enrolled in group B at any time after intubation. A total of 300 eligible subjects with significant oxygen requirements and 200 eligible subjects who require intubation will be included in the study. They will receive convalescent plasma from either a patient who has recovered from COVID-19 or from an asymptomatic carrier with confirmed IgG against SARS-CoV-2. Subjects will not be randomized but the amount of anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG and IgA in any unit of plasma will not be known when the unit is assigned to the patient. This will allow us to examine the relationship between the amount of anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody and outcomes. Analysis will be based on measurement of optical density of the IgG level in the unit of plasma the patient is randomly supplied by the blood bank. While investigators and patients will be aware the patient is receiving a unit of COVID-19 convalescent plasma, both the investigators and the patients will be blinded to the antibody content of that unit.

Assessment in all subjects: Given the issues with the pandemic such as limitations on PPE, and the need for strict isolation, patient data will be limited to that which is acquired from the EPIC EMR (in use at our institution) but not from face to face interview with the patient. The data will be supplemented as possible with phone interview with the patient or their LAR. Consenting will be e-consent based using RedCap with the consent form e-mailed to the patient or the LAR for review prior to the actual consent process. Consent will be obtained over the phone and with a witness: the consent provider and the witness will both document the consent process within the patient's chart in the EPIC EMR.

**Study Product:** COVID-19 convalescent plasma (1 unit; ~300 mL) The product will be produced by Verseti Blood Bank (or other acceptable, blood bank licensed to produce plasma) using standard screening and safety procedures. The product may be procured from patients who have: 1) been symptom free for 14 days and screen negative via NP swab or 2) symptom free for at least 28 days or 3) individuals who have never had symptoms of COVID-19 but were found to have elevated anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG by a serology test deemed to be of acceptable quality and fitting the current guidance by the FDA. Current protocols from Verseti do not screen for antibody level in COVID convalescent plasma, but Verseti retains a residual sample for later testing. Any emerging FDA guidance will be followed. From each unit, immediately after thawing, 2 mL will be removed, 1 mL for SARS-CoV-2 IgA and IgG tests and 1 mL to be held at -80°C for future neutralizing antibody testing.

# 1. Background

# 1.1 COVID-19: A Major Pandemic Currently Affecting the Entire World

In late 2019 the first cases of what has come to be named COVID-19 were noted in Wuhan China<sup>1</sup>. COVID-19 is caused by a novel coronavirus now designated SARS coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2). As of 5/3/2020, the total number of diagnosed cases of COVID-19 worldwide is 3,566,487 with 248,302 deaths and 1,154,550 have been documented to have recovered, and in the United States there are 1,188,122 cases, 68,598 deaths, and 178,263 recovered<sup>2</sup>. Michigan as a state has been disproportionately impacted, at one point ranked third highest number of cases, though due to stay at home orders and other mitigation strategies it has more recently fallen to seventh. It remains third highest for deaths due to COVID-19, and it has the highest percentage of cases leading to mortality in the US. As of 5/3/1010 in Michigan there are currently 43,754 cases, 4,049 deaths, and recovered is not currently available<sup>2</sup>. The first death in Michigan was reported from Beaumont, Wayne<sup>3</sup>. Eighty percent of the cases in Michigan fall within the tri-county Detroit metropolitan area which Beaumont Health serves.

The most common presenting symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough, and shortness of breath⁴ and the disease presentation ranges from asymptomatic to mild to an overwhelming inflammatory response leading to acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and cytokine release syndrome and ultimately death. The actual mortality of the disease is currently unknown but estimates from China suggest a mortality rate of 3.6% (95% CI 3.5–3.7)⁵. In the United States mortality estimates to date indicate that fatality was highest in persons aged ≥85, ranging from 10% to 27%, followed by 3% to 11% among persons aged 65–84 years, 1% to 3% among persons aged 55-64 years, <1% among persons aged 20–54 years, and no fatalities among persons aged ≤19 years⁶. The overall mortality rate ~1.5% which varies day to day (0.8%-2.6% depending on the day it is calculated)⁶. Importantly current mortality numbers for the United States are based on a time when the health care system was not overwhelmed. When analyzing the mortality of COVID-19 in Italy, a country whose health care system can no longer handle the patient load caused by this disease, the mortality is currently estimated at 9.3%².

Those at high risk for progression to severe illness include people over the age of 65, people who live in a long term care facility, people with chronic lung disease, people with heart disease, immunocompromised patients, people who are obese (BMI≥40), and people with other chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, renal failure, and liver disease<sup>8</sup>. At Beaumont Health we have noted a trend that severe cases tend to be male, African American, with diabetes and hypertension (unpublished data).

#### 1.2 Current Treatment of COVID-19

There is currently a single treatment approved by the FDA under emergency use authorization, remdesivir<sup>9</sup>. Remdesivir is an experimental medication developed for the treatment of Ebola virus and active against RNA viruses including COVID<sup>10</sup>. Remdesivir was studied in an NIH sponsored clinical trial in COVID-19 and did not show a statistically significant reduction in mortality, but did show a decrease in length of the disease by 31%<sup>11</sup>. At this time availability of remdesivir remains low and exactly where it best fits in the therapy of COVID-19 remains unclear.

There have been numerous other approaches to therapy tried including hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin based in part on the study of Gautret et al<sup>12</sup> which revealed promising outcomes that were unable to be duplicated by Molina et al<sup>13</sup>. Other studies of hydroxychloroquine in more severely ill COVID-19 patients failed to show a significant benefit <sup>14-16</sup> though it remains to be seen if it is useful early in the course of the disease to prevent progression or as prophylaxis. Lopinavir-ritonavir is a repurposed HIV protease inhibitor which showed good activity against SARS<sup>17</sup> but has failed to show activity against COVID-19<sup>18</sup>. There are numerous other compounds in research studies, but none have yet shown any benefit<sup>19</sup>.

# 1.3 Convalescent Plasma as a Therapy for Infectious Diseases

It is not clear how long convalescent plasma therapy has been used to treat infectious diseases but the first protocolized use was in the 1890s as a means to treat Diphtheria<sup>20</sup>. The use continued in the 20<sup>th</sup> century as a means to treat Scarlet Fever and Pertussis and was the only means of treating certain infectious diseases prior to the widespread availability of antimicrobial therapy in the 1940s<sup>21</sup>. The use of convalescent plasma to treat viral diseases, including severe respiratory diseases is widespread<sup>22</sup> but unfortunately the studies are generally poorly controlled for bias<sup>23</sup>. Notably convalescent plasma therapy was used to treat influenza during the Spanish Flu Pandemic of 1918-1920 with a suggestion of success multiple studies, a meta-analysis of the use of convalescent plasma for the Spanish Flu was published in 2006<sup>24</sup>. More recently convalescent plasma was used as a potential treatment in the 2013 African Ebola epidemic. A small non-randomized study in Sierra Leone revealed a significant increase in survival for those treated with convalescent whole blood relative to those who received standard treatment<sup>25</sup> while other studies were not as positive<sup>26</sup>.

# 1.4 Convalescent Plasma as a Therapy for Coronaviruses

SARS-CoV-2 is the most recent coronavirus to impact humans, while there are literally hundreds, perhaps even thousands of coronaviruses only 7 have been shown to affect humans. There are 4 coronaviruses which are causes of the common cold; 229E, NL63, OC43, and HKU1. There are 2 other coronaviruses that have been associated with epidemics and high mortality, SARS-CoV, the etiologic agent of SARS, and MERS-CoV, the etiologic agent of MERS. For both of these epidemics the high mortality and lack of effective treatments led to use of convalescent plasma in an attempt to save lives.

A number of case series of patients treated with convalescent plasma for SARS have been published<sup>27-32</sup> and were reviewed in a meta-analysis in 2015 by Mair-Jenkins et al<sup>33</sup>. Three of the reports included a single patient each<sup>27-29</sup>, one report was a series of 3 health care workers who received plasma<sup>30</sup>.

The first study with a reasonable number of patients reported 19 patients who received plasma after steroids vs 21 patients who only received steroids<sup>31</sup>. This study reported that no one in the plasma arm died where 5 in the steroid arm died. However the study had multiple issues, it was not randomized, the steroid group had significantly higher comorbidities, and 9 members of the steroid group crossed over and received plasma. They concluded that plasma was associated with a significant decrease in mortality (p=0.049) and that receiving plasma after day 16 was associated with a poor clinical response (based on the crossover group). The also recognized that this may simply have been due to the control group receiving steroids which was later shown to be

contra-indicated in SARS.

The largest case series was 80 patients in Hong Kong who received convalescent plasma<sup>32</sup>. Of the 80 patients, 33 had a good outcome, which was defined as discharge by day 22 from onset of the disease, 47 had a poor outcome which was defined as death by day 22 from onset of the disease or continued need for hospitalization after day 22. In this study the overall mortality rate among the 80 patients was 12.5% whereas the overall mortality rate in Hong Kong was 17%. Sub-analysis of the patients who received convalescent plasma also noted that those who received convalescent plasma before 14 days did better than those who received it after 14 days.

Both studies involving a larger number of patients noted that there were no adverse events associated with receiving convalescent plasma and both studies noted that there were better outcomes when plasma was given before 14 or 16 days. The choice to limit Group A in this study to patients admitted no longer than 14 days is based on these observations.

While there were clearly attempts to use convalescent plasma for MERS<sup>34</sup>, there are no published cases series and only a single case report documenting a patient treated with convalescent plasma who developed TRALI<sup>35</sup>. Unlike SARS and COVID-19, MERS has a very low rate of person to person spread. An analysis of MERS antibody levels in patients with MERS or suspected MERS, healthcare workers with confirmed exposure to MERS, and household contacts of patients with MERS was performed in 2015<sup>36</sup>. The study had numerous issues, including the fact that very few participants had laboratory confirmed MERS and the timing of serology testing after infection or exposure was highly variable, however it showed very few had developed significant antibody levels making the use of convalescent plasma in MERS questionable and raising the concern that simply using plasma from patients who recovered from a coronavirus infection may not have adequate antibodies for a therapeutic effect.

#### 1.5 Convalescent Plasma as a Therapy for COVID-19

To date there have been 6 case series published using COVID-19 convalescent plasma as a treatment<sup>37-42</sup>. In addition, there was a meta-analysis performed of the initial 5 case series<sup>43</sup>. The various case series treated anywhere from 2 to 6 patients and in 5 of the reports all patients survived. However, when the patient populations in these studies are looked at, even when described as severe, cases often were not actually severe at the time they received convalescent plasma all but had been severe earlier in their admission<sup>38</sup>. In fact, one patient in a series was already discharged from the hospital but called back in and given a dose of convalescent plasma because they had a positive PCR for SARS-CoV-2 despite clinical improvement<sup>39</sup>.

In the last case series 21 patients were eligible for plasma but only 6 received it due to the limited availability of convalescent plasma and ABO compatibility. The mortality in the treatment group was 5/6 and in the control group was 14/15. The patients who received convalescent plasma had a higher clearance of the virus (p=0.005) and a longer survival period (p=0.029) but no improvement in mortality<sup>42</sup>.

It is important to note that in the various case series, with few exceptions there was no measurement of anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody in the convalescent plasma and no specific protocol under which it was given. The patients were highly heterogeneous, the

definition of a unit of plasma by volume varied, and the volume of plasma given varied from 200 ml to 2400 ml with no clear reason behind dosing additional units other than lack of patient improvement<sup>40</sup>.

#### 1.6 Mechanism of Action

Convalescent antibody therapy involves the administration of plasma from persons recovered from an infection to a susceptible or ill individual. It is assumed, the plasma contains antibodies against the infectious agent but this has frequently not been confirmed in prior studies.

It is intuitively obvious that if convalescent plasma is efficacious for the treatment of an infection that the mechanism of action would be passive antibody therapy where antibodies against the pathogen lead to neutralization of the pathogen<sup>44</sup>. However, other mechanisms may be possible, such as antibody dependent cellular cytotoxicity and/or phagocytosis<sup>45</sup>. It has also been suggested that there are multiple ways in which convalescent plasma can lead to antibody regulated immunomodulation which in turn leads to down regulation of the hyper-inflammatory reaction associated with COVID-19<sup>46</sup>.

One study examining the convalescent plasma from SARS patients found increased levels of multiple inflammation inhibitors in the plasma that were completely unrelated to the antibodies present<sup>47</sup>.

Given that many of the patients who recovered from COVID-19 in the published case series were intubated long past the time when it was likely active virus was still present to be neutralized<sup>48</sup> and long past the time when they should have developed their own neutralizing antibodies<sup>49</sup>, there may be an as yet undefined mechanism to the activity of convalescent plasma.

# 2. Research Design

# 2.1 Objectives

**Group A Primary Efficacy Objective:** Evaluate the association between efficacy of treatment with COVID-19 convalescent plasma and the amount of Anti-SARS-CoV-2-spike protein IgG as assayed by the EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay.

# **Group A Primary Efficacy Endpoint:** Avoidance of intubation at 28 days. **Group A Secondary Efficacy Endpoints:**

- **1.** Final outcome on a 7-point ordinal scale
- **2.** Cardio-circulatory arrest (at any time)
- 3. Renal failure, as measured by RIFLE criteria
- 4. Liver failure, as measured by elevation of ALT and AST to 5x the upper limit of normal or significant worsening of current liver failure with rise in transaminases of >25%
- 5. Evidence of cytokine storm based on measurement of inflammatory markers
- **6.** Type and duration of respiratory support
- 7. Requirement of pressor support
- 8. ICU mortality
- **9.** ICU length of stay
- **10.** In hospital mortality
- **11.** 28-day mortality
- **12.** Length of stay
- **13.** Ventilator-free days
- **14.** Readmission rate
- **15.** Patient level of anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG at the following times: prior to transfusion, 1-hour post-transfusion, 24 hours post-transfusion, 72 hours post-transfusion, 7 days post-transfusion, every 7 days until discharge, day of discharge.
- **16.** Evaluate the rates, levels (based on CT values) and duration of SARS-CoV-2 RNA in nasopharyngeal swabs using RT-PCR amongst the anti-SARS-CoV-2 convalescent plasma at the following times: prior to transfusion, 24 hours post-transfusion, 72 hours post-transfusion, 7 days post-transfusion, and 14 days post-transfusion.

# **Group A Investigational Efficacy Objectives:**

- 1. Evaluate the efficacy of treatment with COVID-19 convalescent plasma in relation to the amount of Anti-SARS-CoV-2-spike protein IgA as assayed by the EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay.
- 2. Evaluate the efficacy of treatment with COVID-19 convalescent plasma in relation to the amount of both Anti-SARS-CoV-2-spike protein IgG and IgA as assayed by the EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay.

All primary and secondary efficacy endpoints for the study will be re-evaluated based on levels of IgA for investigational objective #1 and based on combined levels of IgG and IgA for investigational objective #2

**Group B Primary Efficacy Objective:** Evaluate the association between efficacy of treatment with COVID-19 convalescent plasma in relation to the amount of Anti-SARS-CoV-2-spike protein IgG as assayed by the EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay.

# Group B Primary Efficacy Endpoint: Mortality at 28 days.

- Group B Secondary Efficacy Endpoints:
  - **1.** Final outcome on a 7-point ordinal scale
  - **2.** Cardio-circulatory arrest (at any time)
  - 3. Renal failure, as measured by RIFLE criteria
  - 4. Liver failure, as measured by elevation of ALT and AST to 5x the upper limit of normal or significant worsening of current liver failure with rise in transaminases of >25%
  - **5.** Evidence of cytokine storm based on measurement of inflammatory markers
  - **6.** Type and duration of respiratory support
  - 7. Requirement of pressor support
  - 8. ICU mortality
  - **9.** ICU length of stay
  - **10.** In hospital mortality
  - **11.** Length of stay
  - **12.** Days from transfusion till end of ventilator support in survivors
  - **13.** Ventilator-free days
  - 14. Readmission rate
  - **15.** Patient level of anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG at the following times: prior to transfusion, 1-hour post-transfusion, 24 hours post-transfusion, 72 hours post-transfusion, 7 days post-transfusion, every 7 days until discharge, day of discharge.
  - **16.** Evaluate the rates, levels (based on CT values) and duration of SARS-CoV-2 RNA in nasopharyngeal swabs using RT-PCR amongst the anti-SARS-CoV-2 convalescent plasma at the following times: prior to transfusion, 24 hours post-transfusion, 72 hours post-transfusion, 7 days post-transfusion, and 14 days post-transfusion.

## **Group B Investigational Efficacy Objectives:**

- 1. Evaluate the efficacy of treatment with COVID-19 convalescent plasma in relation to the amount of Anti-SARS-CoV-2-spike protein IgA as assayed by the EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay.
- 2. Evaluate the efficacy of treatment with COVID-19 convalescent plasma in relation to the amount of both Anti-SARS-CoV-2-spike protein IgG and IgA as assayed by the EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay.

All primary and secondary efficacy endpoints for Group B will be re-evaluated based on levels of IgA for investigational objective #1 and based on combined levels of IgG and IgA for investigational objective #2

**Primary Safety Objective for Group A and B:** Evaluate the safety of treatment with COVID-19 convalescent plasma in relation to the amount of Anti-SARS-CoV-2-spike protein IgG as assayed by the EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay.

# **Primary Safety Endpoints:**

- Rapid deterioration of respiratory or clinical status on transfusion of COVID-19 convalescent plasma
- 2. Development of increased cytokine storm activity within 48 hours of receiving a unit of COVID convalescent plasma.

# **Secondary Objectives:**

 Cumulative incidence of serious adverse events during the study period: transfusion reaction (fever, rash), transfusion-related acute lung injury (TRALI), transfusion-associated circulatory overload (TACO), and transfusion-related infection.

# **Investigational Safety Objectives:**

- 1. Evaluate the safety of treatment with COVID-19 convalescent plasma in relation to the amount of Anti-SARS-CoV-2-spike protein IgA as assayed by the EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay.
- 2. Evaluate the safety of treatment with COVID-19 convalescent plasma in relation to the amount of Anti-SARS-CoV-2-spike protein IgG and IgA as assayed by the EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay.

All primary and secondary safety endpoints for the study will be re-evaluated based on levels of IgA for investigational objective #1 and based on combined levels of IgG and IgA for investigational objective #2

#### 2.2 Data collection

The following data points will be gathered for all patients in the study while inpatient. Patients discharged prior to 28 days will receive a phone call to determine their 28 day outcome and patients enrolled in the study will be monitored for 90 days from discharge to determine if there is a readmission and the reason for the readmission.

**COVID-19 Presentation:** Collected on enrollment, see form on page 30.

**Demographics**: Collected on enrollment, see form on page 31.

Medical History: Collected on enrollment, see form on page 31.

Concomitant Medications: Collected on enrollment, see form on page 31.

Vital Signs: Collected daily from enrollment to discharge, see form on pages 30 and 32. Laboratory Values: Collected daily from enrollment to discharge, patient is required to have a CBC with differential, a CMP, a ferritin and a CRP. On enrollment and weekly the patient must have an IL-6, D-Dimer, procalcitonin, LDH, fibrinogen, ESR, and CK. IL-6 and LDH, other laboratory values will be recorded when obtained through standard of care. See form on page 32.

Clinical Status: Collected daily from enrollment to discharge, see form on page 32.

**Medications:** Collected daily from enrollment to discharge, see form on page 33.

Serology Values: Collected per schedule, see form on pages 34 and 35.

PCR Values: Collected per schedule, see form on page 36

Safety Data: Collected for first 24 hours after transfusion, see form on page 37.

**Outcomes:** Collected at discharge or death, see form on pages 38 and 39.

# 2.3 Study population

#### **Inclusion Criteria for Enrollment**

- 1. Subjects must be 18 years of age or older.
- 2. Hospitalized with confirmed COVID-19 infection via COVID-19 SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR testing.
- 3. Symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection (fever, acute onset cough, shortness of breath) at time of screening.
- 4. Patient requires >6L NC O<sub>2</sub> (Group A) or intubated (Group B).
- 5. Patient (or their representative) is willing and able to provide written informed consent and comply with all protocol requirements.

#### **Exclusion Criteria**

- 1. Female subjects with positive pregnancy test, breastfeeding, or planning to become pregnant or breastfeed during the study period.
- 2. Receipt of pooled immunoglobulin in past 30 days.
- 3. Contraindication to transfusion or history of prior reactions to transfusion blood products.
- 4. Patients currently undergoing cancer treatment or those who are presently immunocompromised.
- 5. Patient who in the opinion of the investigator will not be a good study candidate.

#### 2.4 Schedule of events

Study Period	Screening	Baseline	Treatment		Follow Up <sup>a</sup>					
Day	-1 to 0	0	0	D	1	3	7	14	21	28
Eligibility								,	,	
Inclusion/Exclusion	Х									
Informed consent	Х									
Demographics and	V									
medical history form	X									
Initial data collection	Х									
form	^									
Type and Screen	Х									
Pregnancy Test	Х									
Study Procedures										
Plasma transfusion			X							
Vital signs			Xp							
Physical exam <sup>c</sup>	X		Xd		Χ		Χ			
Daily vital signs, clinical										
and laboratory values				Χ						
form										
Daily medications form				Χ						
Adverse event		X	X	Х						
monitoring				^						
Serology collection form		X	X		Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Xe
Outcome form										Xf
<u>Laboratory Tests<sup>g</sup></u>				_	•	,	,			•
CBC with differential		X		Χ						
CMP		Χ		Χ						
Ferritin		Χ		Χ						
Fibrinogen		Χ					Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
CRP		Χ		Χ			Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
ESR		Χ					Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
Creatine Kinase		Χ					Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
D-Dimer		Χ					Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
LDH		Х					Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
Interleukin-6		X					Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
Triglycerides		Χ					Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
Procalcitonin		Χ					Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgA			X <sup>h</sup>		Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Xi
Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG			X <sup>h</sup>		Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Xi
SARS-CoV-2 RT PCR			Xj		Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ		

- a Column D are obtained daily, day 1 and 3 are obtained 24 hours (+/- 1 hour) from transfusion end, day 7, 14, 21, and 28 are obtained any time on that calendar day.
- b Standard vital signs for transfusion of blood products will be performed.
- c Given the issues with isolation and PPE, the exam of the attending physician's team or the pulmonary critical care team can be used.
- d Only if needed due to acute reaction.
- e After 28 days will be collected every 7 days +/- 1 day till discharge.
- f Outcome form to be filled out on final day of admission if prior to 28 days or at 28 days, after 28 days a second outcome form to be filled out on final day of admission, readmission will be tracked for 90 days.
- g All laboratory tests from this list which are obtained as standard of care will be tracked, baseline labs within 24 hours are acceptable and do not need to be reordered.
- h To be drawn within 1 hour prior to transfusion and 1 hour post-transfusion completion (no earlier than 1 hour but up to 75 min post transfusion).
- i After day 28 this will be drawn every 7 days +/- 1 day while participant remains hospitalized.
- j To be obtained within 1 hour prior to transfusion.

#### 2.5 Treatment

All study participants will receive 1 unit of the study product. There is no re-dosing of the product within this study. There is no formal randomization, but both the patient and the study team will be blinded to the amount of anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibodies found in the unit of plasma assigned to the participant. The blind will be maintained until study closure and formal data analysis.

#### 2.6 Rationale for Dose

Review of the literature using COVID-19 convalescent plasma reveals that there is currently no standard dose or schedule for giving convalescent plasma. In addition there is currently no standard assay for antibody level performed on plasma in the United States and there is no way to guarantee access to more than one unit of plasma at a time or guarantee that if more than one unit were available they would be comparable in antibody content. As such the dose was chosen via the pragmatic approach of using a single unit of plasma and stratifying the results by the serological assay of that unit.

# 2.7 Study drug administration

- **1.** Plasma will be administered at an infusion rate ≤ 500 mL/hour per standards determined by the blood bank.
- 2. Pretreatment to minimize transfusion reactions (e.g. acetaminophen, diphenhydramine) may be given per investigator and clinical care team discretion.
- **3.** If an AE develops during infusion, the infusion may be slowed or stopped as per investigator's decision.
- **4.** Most reactions to plasma are relatively minor and the infusion can generally be continued. Infusion site burning and non-allergic systemic effects can generally be managed with slowing of the infusion. Infusion can generally be continued in case of itching or hives after pausing the transfusion, administering antihistamines, and observing the patient for worsening.
- **5.** Severe allergic reactions, such as bronchospasm and hypotension, may require discontinuation of the infusion.

#### 2.8 Subject Withdrawal

Taking part in this research study is completely voluntary. A participant may choose not to take part or to stop being in the study (withdraw) at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which they are otherwise entitled, and without jeopardizing their medical care.

If a participant (or their LAR) decides to withdraw from the study they will need to notify the study PI, in writing, of their decision to stop taking part in the study. Detailed directions regarding this will be included in the consent and authorization form for the study.

Participation in this study may be stopped by the study PI or the site PI without the participant's consent for an appropriate reason, which will be explained to the participant or their LAR. Examples include:

- The study medication or procedures appear to be medically harmful to the participant.
- The participant fails to follow directions for the study.

- It is discovered the participant does not meet the study requirements.
- The study is canceled.
- It is determined to be in the participant's best interest.

Subjects who withdraw or are removed from the study will not be replaced. Discontinuation of the study: The IND holder, Beaumont Health, the FDA, the IRB, and the DSMB all have the right to terminate this study at any time.

#### 3. Statistics

## 3.1 Data Analysis

We will summarize all baseline data using means, standard deviations, medians and interquartile range for all continuous variables. All data will be examined graphically prior to any modeling.

Primary Outcomes: All analyses of primary outcomes will use a 5% significance level. This study will have two primary outcomes: (1) whether a patient needed intubation for Group B patients, and (2) 28-day survival for Group B patients. For both outcomes, we will use logistic regression models with IgG levels as the primary independent variable. We expect that the relationship between outcome and IgG levels will be non-linear since there should be a quick increased probability of a "good" outcome once IgG levels are sufficiently large, and with this probability of a "good" outcome not increasing much if Ig levels become very high. As such, the relationship with IgG levels will be modeled using splines. We will use both the Akaike informatic criterion (AIC) and the Schwartz Bayesian information criterion (BIC) to select the number of knots to include. Age, gender, and race will also be included as covariates. We will conduct a sensitivity analysis focused on the estimate and confidence interval for the relative risk in a linear model for IgG levels. This sensitivity analysis will add comorbidities singly as covariates.

While log-binomial models would be preferred to logistic regression models for obtaining estimates of relative risk based on model parameters, log-binomial regression models are often difficult to fit, especially when including splines. As such, we will estimate local relative risks based on the fitted model using numerical derivatives for a given IgG level. We will also be able to estimate relative risk of two IgG levels using the same approach.

We will also consider using a piecewise log-binomial model,

$$\log(p) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 I(x > s),$$

where p is the probability of the outcome,  $\beta_0$  is the intercept (baseline-probability of the outcome), and  $\beta_1$  is the coefficient describing the log of the relative risk for having large amounts of antibody, the knot s determines the cutoff for characterizing large amounts of antibody. We will use Bayesian inference with a binomial likelihood, a beta(0.5,0.5) prior for  $\exp(\beta_0)$ , a weak normal prior for  $\beta_1$ , and a uniform(0,maximum(IgG/IgA level)) prior for the knot, s.

**Secondary Outcomes:** Analyses of all secondary outcomes will use a 0.3% significance level based on the Bonferroni correction for 16 tests. Final outcome measured on a 7-point ordinal scale will be analyzed using standard linear regression,

although we will also consider proportional odds models should the range of the scale actually used be small (i.e., only 3-4 categories appear in the data). We will not use splines for the standard linear regression, but will use splines if a proportional odds model is fit to the data. We will use the same logistic regression approach as for the primary outcomes for all binary secondary outcomes (cardio-circulatory arrest, renal failure, liver failure, evidence of cytokine storm, pressor support required, and readmission).

We anticipate a small number of total number of mortality events for Group A. Should mortality for Group A be small, we will use Fisher's exact test based on categorizing the unit received by each patient as either low vs. high for amount of Anti-SARS-CoV-2-spike protein IgG. The cutoff for categorizing units will be based on either median amount or based on the cutoff determined by the Bayesian log-binomial piecewise model. For Group B, all secondary mortality outcomes will be analyzed the same as for the primary outcome. Should the number of events for any specific type of mortality (e.g., ICU mortality) prove small, we will use the approach used for analyses of Group A.

We will use a generalized linear model with splines to analyze all duration types of variables (duration of respiratory support, ICU length of stay, total length of stay). We will consider using normal, log-normal, and gamma distributions, along with appropriate links.

Type of respiratory support will be analyzed using a multinomial regression with splines for antibody amount, although we will also consider using Fisher's exact test by categorizing the unit received by each patient as either low vs. high for amount of Anti-SARS-CoV-2-spike protein IgG.

We will use either standard linear regression or Poisson regression for ventilator-free days, including splines.

We will use generalized linear mixed models to characterize changes in patient level of anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG, and the rates, levels (based on CT values) and duration of SARS-CoV-2 RNA in nasopharyngeal swabs. These models will include time as a fixed effect, and will also include the random intercept for subject. We will also consider adding other random coefficients based on both AIC and BIC.

**Investigational Outcomes:** We will examine the relationship between primary and appropriate secondary outcomes with IgA levels as an investigational analysis using the same types of models being fit as for IgG levels.

#### 3.2 Power and sample size

We determined sample size based on a logistic regression model with a linear relationship between outcome and IgG level, and we used simulations to evaluate power for different sample sizes since we expect some sort of non-linear relationship. We assumed a piecewise model in which the probability of a good outcome increased once IgG levels were greater a threshold. Most of our power calculations used a threshold of 5 since a larger threshold resulted in slightly greater power. We expect this simulation approach to provide an estimate of the minimal power since we use a linear

relationship when the relationship is actually not linear. We assumed the baseline probability was 25% for 28-day survival and 38% for intubation rate. We selected a sample size of 200 for 28-day survival since this sample size provides excellent power (87.8%) for detecting an increase in 28-day survival to 50% (Table 1). We selected a sample size of 300 for intubation rate since this sample size provides excellent power (87.9%) to detect a decrease in intubation rate to 18% (Table 2).

Table 1. Power fo	or detecting an
increase in 28-day s	urvival when the
baseline probability	is 0.25 and the
sample size is 200.	
28-day Survival for	Power
high levels of IgG	
0.45	74.4%
0.50	87.8%

Table 2. Power f	for detecting a
decrease in intubation	on rate when the
baseline probability	is 0.38 and the
sample size is 300.	
Intubation Rate for	Power
Intubation Rate for high levels of IgG	Power
	Power 60.6%
high levels of IgG	

## 4. Protection of Human Subjects

The entirety of this study will be approved and monitored by the Beaumont Health Institutional Review Board of Record (FWA0002516).

This research will be conducted as a clinical investigation requiring an IND as per title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 312 (21 CFR part 312) and the guidance from the FDA given on May 1, 2020 found at https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/investigational-new-drug-ind-or-device-exemption-ide-process-cber/recommendations-investigational-covid-19-convalescent-plasma

#### 4.1 Risks to the Subjects

#### **Human Participant Involvement and Characteristics**

Antibody-level Based Analysis of COVID Convalescent Serum, ABACCuS, will be a prospective, single-center, double-blinded, study of the effectiveness of COVID-19 convalescent plasma for the treatment of COVID-19.

We plan to enroll 500 inpatients from the eight Beaumont Hospitals, 300 of which are requiring >6L of oxygen to maintain  $O_2$  saturation >92% but are not requiring intubation and 200 of which are requiring intubation. All enrolled patients, or their legally authorized representative (LAR) must sign an Informed Consent Form (ICF).

All patients will receive a unit of COVID-19 convalescent plasma but the antibody content of the unit will not be known and there will be a double-blind such that neither the patient nor the study personnel will know the anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody levels within the plasma.

During the study, various clinical and demographic data on each patient will be collected as detailed in the Research Design section.

A schedule of events for all patients in the study is included above (**Section 2.4**). Inclusion and exclusion criteria for the study are included above (**Section 2.3**).

No vulnerable populations of children or pregnant women will be recruited to the study. Children are exempted due to differing impact of SARS-CoV-2 on the pediatric population as compared to that of adults. Pregnant women are exempted due to unknown risks to the fetus. Cognitively impaired patients are allowed but will need to be consented using an LAR.

#### **Sources of Materials**

Participants will provide the required blood samples at the indicated time points, as described in the Research Strategy, and outlined in the above schedule of events (**Section 2.4**). Additional participant data will be obtained through a chart review within Beaumont's EMR (EPIC) and supplemented where appropriate by patient completion of interviews.

All patients enrolled in the study will be followed daily while inpatient by research coordinators who will gather all required data.

#### **Potential Risks**

Historical and current anecdotal data on use of convalescent plasma suggest its use to treat COVID-19 is generally safe. The large number of exposed individuals, in combination with the high mortality of COVID-19, particularly in vulnerable persons, strongly suggests that the potential benefits of convalescent serum outweigh its possible risks in SARS-CoV-2 infected individuals with significant oxygen requirements.

#### **Known Risks of Plasma Transfusion**

Risks of any transfusion of plasma include: fever, chills, rash, headache, serious allergic reactions, TRALI, TACO, transmission of infectious agents.

The chances of any of these occurring are as follows:

Acute hemolytic reaction: 1 in 40,000 units transfused

Febrile transfusion reaction: 1 in 100 to 1 in 1000 units transfused

Urticarial reaction (hives): 1 in 100 units transfused Anaphylaxis: 1 in 20,000 to 1 in 50,000 units transfused

Transfusion related acute lung injury (TRALI): 1 in 1,200 to 1 in 190,000 units transfused

Transfusion related circulatory overload (TACO): less than 1 in 100 units transfused

Transmission of Hepatitis B: less than 1 in 250,000 units transfused Transmission of Hepatitis C: less than 1 in 1,000,000 units transfused

Transmission of HIV: less than 1 in 1,000,000 units transfused

# **Hypothetical Risks of Plasma Transfusion**

There is a theoretical risk of antibody-mediated enhancement of infection (ADE). ADE has been shown to occur for several viral diseases, most notably flaviviruses including Dengue and Zika<sup>50</sup>, and involves an enhancement of disease in the presence of non-neutralizing or poorly neutralizing antibodies. The concern has been raised that the highly variable presentation of COVID-19 may in part be due to an ADE phenomenon<sup>51-52</sup> due to partially cross-reacting antibodies from other human coronaviruses, most likely OC43 or HKU1 as they, like SARS-CoV-2 are members of the Beta-coronavirus family and are more likely to be cross reactive. Such ADE phenomena have been seen in both SARS<sup>53-54</sup> and MERS<sup>55-56</sup> in animal studies so are definitely of concern in COVID-19.

While it would be expected that COVID-19 convalescent plasma would have high titers

of neutralizing antibody against SARS2-CoV-2, this is not always the case and antibody levels can vary<sup>57</sup>. When plasma from donors who only test positive by serology are added into the pool of available COVID convalescent plasma the concern rises further.

Just as low neutralizing antibody levels can potentially cause issue due to ADE, high levels of anti-Spike IgG were found to be directly responsible for increased acute lung injury in a Chinese macaque model of SARS infection<sup>58</sup>. We must be concerned of the danger of both too low and too high a level of neutralizing antibodies in convalescent plasma. The use of COVID convalescent plasma must be carefully studied over a range of antibody levels to be sure it is safe to use at any level. This study is designed to detect any evidence of worsening respiratory status based on actual antibody level in the plasma transfused.

Another theoretical risk is that administering antibody to those with an active SARS-CoV-2 infection may treat the disease but modify the native immune response such that treated individuals mount an attenuated humoral immune response. This would leave them vulnerable to subsequent re-infection. Such a phenomenon has been seen in respiratory syncytial virus where passive antibody treatment before vaccination with respiratory syncytial virus was shown to attenuate humoral but not cellular immunity<sup>59</sup>. This has not been demonstrated in coronaviruses to this point.

# **Risks of Laboratory Testing**

For all patients there will be multiple blood draws. For female patients of childbearing years, a serum pregnancy test will be sent before a unit of plasma is ordered, and if positive they will be removed from the study, whenever possible this test will be added on to previously drawn blood or done at the same time as another blood draw. A blood draw carries the common risks of bleeding, bruising, and pain, and the rare risks of blood clot, infection, light-headedness, dizziness, and fainting.

For all patients there will multiple nasopharyngeal swabs. The risks of a nasopharyngeal swab: local discomfort, vomiting.

#### Confidentiality

Risks for this study include breach of confidentiality. To minimize this risk all case forms will use a code consisting of a unique number. A list will be kept that links the patient's name and health system medical record number to the code. This list will be kept in a securely in the RedCap database which will be used to store patient date. Only study personnel will have access to the list and the case report forms. A list of the patients involved in the study will be kept within the EPIC EMR in order to facilitate access to the patient's records for purposes of the study and to prevent recruitment of patients who are already in the study. The list will be private, maintained by the study principal investigator at each site with their lead coordinator, and accessible only to appropriate study personnel.

#### 4.2 Potential Benefits

The potential benefits of treatment with COVID-19 convalescent plasma in patients with respiratory symptoms, requiring oxygens, and at high risk for requiring ICU admission are not known. However, it is anticipated that treatment will decrease the risk of disease progression requiring ICU admission and progression to mechanical ventilation.

The potential benefits of treatment with COVID-19 convalescent plasma in patients

already requiring mechanical ventilation are even less clear. It is anticipated that treatment will reduce the overall mortality and increase the chance of the patient no longer requiring mechanical ventilation.

# 4.3Adequacy of Protection Against Risks Risk-Benefit Ratio

The dangers of plasma transfusion in general are well known and well described. The probability of their occurrence in predictable. The likelihood of the hypothetical risks of COVID-19 convalescent plasma transfusion are unknown but, in those studies currently available the overall use appears safe.

Therefore, the risks to subjects are reasonable in relation to potential to directly benefit the participant by reducing the morbidity and mortality of COVID-19 as well as the importance of the knowledge that is expected to result.

At all times, the risk-benefit ratio will be considered when recruiting a patient to the study.

#### **Recruitment and Informed Consent**

- A waiver of consent for screening will be sought for this trial in order to identify potential patients via the EMR.
- Patients may be identified via an automated search of the Electronic Medical Record (EMR), which has already been built and is currently used to identify potential patients for clinical trials.
- The search in the EMR will automatically narrow the search to patients in the appropriate age range (both female and male patients), who have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. The search also identifies the amount of oxygen given to the patient and whether they are on a ventilator.
- Patients may also be referred directly from the patient's attending physician and/or the local site investigator
- The inclusion and exclusion criteria for the study are listed in Section 2.3. Review and determination of eligibility will be conducted by the study coordinator with additional review of any subjects by the site principal investigator or other appropriate physician investigator for this study when the site principal investigator is not available.
- After initial screening for inclusion and exclusion criteria, and with approval of the patient's attending physician, the patient or his LAR will be approached to participate in the study by highly experienced study coordinators and/or a physician member of the study team. The background, purpose, basic requirements for participation, benefits, and risks of the study will be explained to the patient. The consent provider will explain that the cost of the study drug and any study procedures will be covered by the study with no expense to the patient. Patients will have adequate time to read the informed consent form and be given the opportunity to ask questions of the coordinator or investigator and have their questions answered to their satisfaction.
- All discussions with the patient will be conducted remotely as per established emergency policies developed by the Beaumont IRB and Research Administration for consenting during this pandemic in order to maximize the safety of all involved and reduce the utilization of needed personal protective

equipment. All consenting will be witnessed by a third part from Beaumont and both the consent provider and the witness will document the consent in a research note in the patient's clinical record in the EMR.

- No pressure will be placed on patients to participate in the trial and they will be assured that their medical care will continue without any negative impact whether they participate in the study or not.
- Written informed consent will be obtained from all study participants.
- No parental consent will be necessary for this study as no patients under age 18 will be enrolled.
- Consent by an LAR may be utilized for this study as the participants may not be able to consent themselves and the treatment is considered potentially lifesaving at this time.
- Oversight and study management will be provided by the PI and the Beaumont Urology Research Director. Monitoring will be provided by the Beaumont Research Coordinating Center.
- All consent provider training and consent audits will be managed by the Beaumont Research Manager or her delegate.
- No work will begin on this project until approval is granted by the Beaumont Health IRB.

## **Protection against Risk**

All known risks will be specified in the informed consent form so participants are aware of the potential for adverse events and what those might be.

# **Maintenance of Confidentiality:**

All appropriate measures will be taken to protect the identity of subjects and the confidentiality of collected data.

Data will be collected using study-specific source documents which are included in this document. The data will be stored in the RedCap database, a secure hospital-based computer system with password protection. The author of an entry is easily identifiable, and the system is such that editing of documents and the person who edited it is tracked. The study personnel responsible for data collection will be trained to ensure reliability and quality of the data and the data will be monitored by the Beaumont Research Coordinating Center. All patient identifiers will be removed from the collected data to ensure HIPAA compliance and patient confidentiality. Patient data will be identified using initials and a patient study number. Any communication relating to the study, study documents, and electronic databases will identify patients by initials and their assigned number only.

A patient identification log will be kept permitting easy identification of each patient during and after the study. The patient identification log will be confidential and will be kept in a secure location in the study office. To ensure confidentiality, no copy will be made. The log will link the patient's name and medical record number to the unique study identification number. An electronic list of patients in the study, only available to study personnel, will be kept within the EPIC EMR of our health care system for use in rapidly accessing the patient's health information for purposes of the study and to assure that no patient is recruited to the study more than once. When the study and all

review is complete, the list linking the study code to identifiers will be destroyed and the patient list within the EMR will be deleted.

In accordance with ICH/GCP (International Conference on Harmonization/Good Clinical Practice) guidelines, the study team will maintain all source documents that support the data collected from each patient, as well as all study documents specified in ICH/GCP Section 8, Essential Documents for the Conduct of a Clinical Trial, and all study documents as specified by appropriate regulatory requirements. All documents related to the study will be kept in a secure location in the study office and will be preserved for a minimum of eleven years as required by internal policy either within the study office or another approved location for long-term secure storage.

#### **Adverse Events:**

An adverse event (AE) can be any unfavorable and unintended sign (including an abnormal laboratory finding), symptom, or disease temporally associated with the use of an investigational product, whether or not considered related to the investigational product.

The occurrence of an AE may come to the attention of study personnel during at any point in the study. The period of observation for which AEs are to be collected will begin after the subject has signed the ICF and will continue throughout their participation in the study. All AEs, whether reported by the subject or noted by study personnel, will be recorded in the subject's research chart.

Information to be collected includes event description, time of onset, investigator's assessment of severity, investigator's assessment of relationship to study drug, and time of resolution/stabilization of the event. All AEs occurring while on study will be documented appropriately regardless of their relationship to the study treatment. AEs will be followed to adequate resolution.

Any medical condition that is present at the time that the subject is screened will be considered as baseline and not reported as an AE. However, if the condition deteriorates at any time during the study, it will be recorded as an AE. Any laboratory abnormality not considered to be clinically significant by the investigator will not be considered an AE. All AEs will be graded for intensity and relationship to the study treatment.

One of the investigators will determine the relationship between the study treatment and the occurrence of an AE as defined below:

- Definitely related events are those that the investigator determines are definitely related to the intervention, and for which the investigator believes no alternative etiology exists.
- Probably related events are those for which the investigator believes there is a reasonable likelihood the AE may have been caused by the intervention involved in the research.
- Probably not related events are those for which the investigator believes there
  is a reasonable likelihood the AE may have been caused by other factors and
  not caused by the intervention involved in the research.

- Unrelated events are those that the investigator determines are not related to the intervention either due to timing or a confirmed alternative cause.
- Unable to Determine: The investigator is unable to determine the likelihood that the AE and the study treatment have a causal relationship.

#### **Serious Adverse Events**

An adverse event or suspected adverse event is considered serious if, in the view of the investigator, the medical monitor, or the sponsor, it results in any of the following outcomes:

- death.
- · a life-threatening adverse event,
- inpatient hospitalization or prolongation of existing hospitalization,
- a persistent or significant incapacity or substantial disruption of the ability to conduct normal life functions, or
- a congenital anomaly/birth defect.

An adverse event is considered "life-threatening" if, in the view of the investigator, the medical monitor, or the sponsor, its occurrence places the patient or subject at immediate risk of death. It does not include an adverse event that had it occurred in a more severe form, might have caused death.

Important medical events that do not meet the criteria of resulting in death, being life-threatening, or requiring hospitalization may still be considered serious when, based upon appropriate medical judgment, they might jeopardize the subject's life and may require medical or surgical intervention to prevent one of the outcomes listed in this definition. An example of this would be an early allergic reaction that does not reach the level of life-threatening due to early medical intervention with steroids and bronchodialators.

#### **Unanticipated Problems**

Unanticipated problems, in general, to include any incident, experience, or outcome that meets all of the following criteria:

- Unexpected (in terms of nature, severity, or frequency) given (a) the research procedures that are described in the protocol-related documents, such as the IRB-approved research protocol and informed consent document; and (b) the characteristics of the subject population being studied;
- Related or possibly related to participation in the research (in this guidance document, possibly related means there is a reasonable possibility that the incident, experience, or outcome may have been caused by the procedures involved in the research); and
- Suggests that the research places subjects or others at a greater risk of harm (including physical, psychological, economic, or social harm) than was previously known or recognized.

#### **Data and Safety Monitoring Plan**

This study protocol will employ rigorous methods to ensure data safety. Human subject safeguards will include at a minimum, completion of Human Subjects Protection Training. In the event that any study participant has a significant adverse reaction related to the study, standard of care treatment to address the SAE for the participant

will be followed. The attending team for each participant will be directly involved and know to inform the site principal investigator, or the research coordinator should there be a significant worsening of the patient's clinical status.

# **Adverse Event Reporting**

If an untoward event occurs, it will be reported by the principal investigator in accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) code of federal regulations (Title 45, Part 46).

There are two categories of AEs: 1) Serious Adverse Events and 2) Adverse Events. Serious adverse events are required to be reported within 48 hours of knowledge of the event. Adverse events not in the "serious" category but judged to be "severe" or "lifethreatening" are also subject to the 48 hours reporting requirement. Copies of reports of all SAEs will be forwarded to the IRB and the DSMB. The PI will be responsible for generating a summary report for the IRB and DSMB. The report will document that a review of data and outcomes took place on a given date, when the event occurred, and when the PI became aware of it. Adverse events are reported to the IRB during the regular progress reports and will be reported to the DSMB at the same time.

Unanticipated problems that are serious adverse events will be reported to the IRB and the DSMB within 48 hours of the investigator becoming aware of the event.

Any other unanticipated problem which is not also an SAE will be reported to the IRB within 1 week of the investigator becoming aware of the problem.

# Compliance with Policy/Regulation Protection of Human Patients

Compliance with Informed Consent Regulations (U.S. 21 CFR Part 50) will be strictly maintained. Informed consent audits will be conducted by the Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Manager and kept on file, per Research Institute policy.

# Compliance with Electronic Records; Electronic Signatures Regulations

This study will be conducted in compliance with the regulations on electronic records and electronic signatures and will comply with the Guidance on Computerized Systems used in Clinical Trials.

#### **Patient Confidentiality**

A report of the results of this study may be published but patients' names will not be disclosed in these documents. Appropriate precautions will be taken to maintain confidentiality of medical records and personal information.

#### **Data Safety Monitoring Board**

A formal data safety monitoring board will be established for this study per NIH guidelines. The membership will consist of independent experts without conflicts of interest and without direct involvement in this study. The membership shall consist of 4 physicians including an Infectious Diseases specialist and a Hematologist. The fifth member of the DSMB will be a biostatistician. The DSMB will meet within 1 week of the first patient being enrolled at least monthly to review the data thereafter. The exact schedule may be modified depending on the level of enrollment with faster enrollment leading to more frequent meetings and slower enrollment leading to less frequent meetings though the meetings will never be less then quarterly. At any time the halting

criteria for the study are met the DSMB will meet to review what occurred and make a decision on whether the study can resume.

# Halting Criteria for the Study

The study enrollment and dosing will be stopped and an ad hoc review by the DSMB will be performed if any of the specific following events occur or, if in the judgment of the study physician, subject safety is at risk of being compromised:

- 1. Death within one hour of plasma infusion
- Occurrence of more than a single life-threatening allergic/hypersensitivity reaction (anaphylaxis), manifested by bronchospasm with or without urticaria or angioedema requiring hemodynamic support with pressor medications or mechanical ventilation.
- 3. An overall pattern of symptomatic, clinical, or laboratory events that the investigator feels is associated with the study product and that may appear minor in terms of individual events but that collectively may represent a serious potential concern for safety.
- 4. Any unanticipated problem which is felt to alter the overall risk-benefit ratio of the study.

Upon completion of this ad hoc review the DSMB will determine if study entry or study dosing should be interrupted or if study entry and study dosing may continue according to the protocol.

## Halting Criteria/Rules for Subject Infusion

The rules for halting plasma transfusion are established by policy at Beaumont Health and will be followed by nursing staff who are supervising the transfusion. Decision to discontinue or resume the transfusion with or without medication treatment will be made by the study investigator based on the pre-established policies. See Beaumont Health Policy 7876626.

At the discretion of the study investigator or the clinical care team pretreatment to minimize transfusion reactions (e.g. acetaminophen, diphenhydramine) may be given to a participant

If an adverse reaction develops during infusion, the infusion may be slowed or stopped at the investigator's discretion.

Most reactions to plasma are relatively minor and the infusion can generally be continued. Infusion site burning and non-allergic systemic effects can generally be managed with slowing of the infusion. Infusion can generally be continued in cases of itching or hives after pausing the transfusion, administering antihistamines, and observing the patient for worsening.

Severe reactions such as, anaphylaxis, bronchospasm, respiratory compromise and hypotension, will require discontinuation of the infusion.

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<b>ABACCuS Initial Data Collection F</b>	orm	
Patient Initials/Study ID:	Date of E	Enrollment:
Date of admission: Date of initial symptoms:	 Date of fi	irst +COVID PCR:
Hospitalization Status: Standard floo	or/COVID Unit/MPCU/ICU	
Symptoms onset date: Cough Fever Nausea Vomiting Diarrhea	SOB Lack of taste Lack of sme Muscle ache Headache	ell
Vital signs in last 24 hours (Current of Maximum temperature: Maximum heart rate: Maximum blood pressure (based on Current blood pressure: Maximum O <sub>2</sub> patient was on and the Minimum O <sub>2</sub> patient is on and the medinimum O <sub>2</sub> saturation, O <sub>2</sub> delivered Current O <sub>2</sub> saturation, O <sub>2</sub> delivered, Maximum respiratory rate:	Minimum temperature: Minimum heart rate: mean arterial pressure): mean arterial pressure): method of delivery: ethod of delivery: d, and the method of delivery: d and the method of delivery:	Current temperature: Current heart rate: MAP: MAP: MAP:
SOFA Score: APACI	HE II Score: H	-Score:
Include with source documentation results prior to transfusion of IP it		f the most recent of the following lab
CBC with differential (if a more recent CMP (if more recent components of Triglycerides, Ferritin, Fibrinogen, C Pregnancy test (for women of childb	the CMP are available include a RP, ESR, LDH, D Dimer, IL-6, C	s well) K, COVID PCR
Include with source documentation	on the following reports during	the admission for COVID if available:
Initial chest CT, most recent chest C recent echocardiogram	T, initial chest X-ray, most recen	nt chest X-ray, initial echocardiogram, most
Signature of coordinator	D	ate
Signature of Investigator reviewing of	lata D	ate

<b>ABACCuS Demograph</b>	ics/Medical History Da	ata Collection Form:
Patient Initials/Study ID:		Date of Enrollment:
Demographics		
Age:	Sex:	Race:
Date of birth:		Profession:
Zip Code of Residence	e:	
<ul> <li>Hematole</li> <li>Active chemologic</li> <li>Congenion</li> <li>Splenecte</li> <li>Biologic</li> <li>Other: Y</li> </ul> Other Major Medical Companion	disease: Y / N sease: Y / N disease: Y / N / / N mised: Y / N ogic malignancy: Y / N nemotherapy: Y / N steroids >0.5 mg/kg/d tal or acquired immun omy: Y / N agents for immunosu / N	ay prednisone equivalent: Y / N odeficiency: Y / N ppression: Y / N
Append ACE in Append all ster Append all anti Append all vas Append all trea	roids received during biotics received during -coagulation receive opressors received outliness given specif	received during current admission,
Signature of coordinator		Date
Signature of Investigator	reviewing data	Date

ABACCuS Da Patient Initials	aily Vital Sig s/Study ID:	ns, Clinical and	Laboratory	<b>Values Data C</b> Date of Enro	ollection Forr	n: 
Study day #:_ Hospital day #	<b>#</b> :			Date of reco	rd:ecorded:	
For the calend	dar day indica	ated above:				
Maximum tem	nperature:	Minimu	m tempera	ture:		
Maximum hea	art rate:	 Minimu	m heart rat	e:		
		(based on mean a			MAP:	_
Minimum bloo	od pressure (l	based on mean ar	terial press	ure):	MAP:	_
		on and the method				
		and the method of				
Minimum O <sub>2</sub> s	saturation, O <sub>2</sub>	gedelivered, and th	e method o	f delivery:		
Maximum O <sub>2</sub>	saturation, O	<sub>2</sub> delivered and th	e method o	f delivery:		
Maximum res	piratory rate:	Minimu	m respirato	ry rate:		
Was the patie		ator: Y/N	Proned: Y/	N On N	litrox: Y/N	On ECMO: Y/N
Markers of	Value	Complete Blood	Value	Metabolic	Value	
Inflammation	Value	Count With	Value	Markers	Value	
and Other		Differential		- Trial No. 5		
Ferritin		WBC		Sodium		
Fibrinogen		Hemoglobin		Potassium		
CRP		Hematocrit		Chloride		
ESR		Platelets		CO <sub>2</sub>		
CK		Neutrophils		BUN		
D-Dimer		Lymphocytes		Creatinine		
LDH		Monocytes		Glucose		
Interleukin-6		Eosinophils		Total Protein		
				Albumin		
				Globulin		
Triglycerides				Alk Phos		
Procalcitonin				ALT		
				AST		
				Total Bilirubin		
Append any p	ositive micro	, EKG, or echocal biology results for for this date of ho	this date o	f hospitalization	spitalization	
Signature of c	coordinator			Date		
Signature of I		eviewing data		Date		<u> </u>

ABACCuS Daily Medication	ns Data	Collection	Form:						
Patient Initials/Study ID: Da			Date of Enrollment:						
Study day #: Hospital day #:			]	Date of record: Date data recorded:					
For the calendar day indicate	ed above	e:							
Was the Patient Sedated: Y/	N		Sedation	n Used: _					
Was the Patient Paralyzed: `	Y/N		Paralytic	: Used: _					
Was the Patient on Pressors	: Y/N		Pressors	s Used: _					
Medications Initiated on Th	nis Cale	ndar Day:							
Medication	Dose		Route of Administ		Frequency	1	Time Started		
Madiantiana Diagontinuad	or Com	nloted on T	hie Colond	lor Doy					
Medications Discontinued Medication	or Com	Medication		lai Day.	Medicat	tion			
Medications with Dose Mo	dificati	ons on This	Calendar	Dav:					
		Change		Frequency Change Time			Time of Change		
Append the medication ad	ministra	ation record	d and any b	lood pro	ducts for the	above ca	lendar date		
Signature of coordinator				Da	ite				
Signature of Investigator rev	iewing d	ata		Da	nte				

# **ABACCuS Serology Data Collection Form:**

Patient Initials/Study ID: _		Date of Enrollment:	
Plasma Unit Used:		Date and Time of Transfusion	:
Patient Baseline Serology	:		
IgA OD:	IgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology 1 Hour P	ost-Transfusion (+/- 5 min)		
IgA OD:	lgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology 24 Hours	s Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 hour)		
IgA OD:	lgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology 72 Hours	s Post-Transfusion (+/- 3 hours)		
IgA OD:	IgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology 1 Week F	Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 day)		
IgA OD:	IgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology 2 Weeks	Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 day)		
IgA OD:	IgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology 3 Weeks	Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 day)		
IgA OD:	IgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology 4 Weeks	Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 day)		
IgA OD:	IgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology Day of D	ischarge		
IgA OD:	IgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Signature of coordinator		 Date	
<u> </u>			
Signature of Investigator re	eviewing data	Date	

# **ABACCuS Supplemental Serology Data Collection Form:**

Patient Initials/Study II	D:	Date of Enrollment:	
Plasma Unit Used:		Date and Time of Transfusion:	
Patient Serology	_ Weeks Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 d	ay)	
lgA OD:	lgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology	_ Weeks Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 d	ay)	
IgA OD:	lgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology	_ Weeks Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 d	ay)	
IgA OD:	lgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology	_ Weeks Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 d	ay)	
IgA OD:	lgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology	_ Weeks Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 d	ay)	
IgA OD:	lgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology	_ Weeks Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 d	ау)	
IgA OD:	lgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology	_ Weeks Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 d	ау)	
IgA OD:	lgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology	_ Weeks Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 d	ау)	
IgA OD:	lgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Patient Serology	_Weeks Post-Transfusion (+/- 1 d	ay)	
IgA OD:	lgG OD:	Date and Time of Specimen:	
Signature of coordinate	or	 Date	
orginature or coordinate	OI.	Date	
Signature of Investigat	or reviewing data	 Date	

# ABACCuS SARS-CoV-2 RT PCR Data Collection Form:

Patient Initials/Study ID: _		Date of Enrollment:
Plasma Unit Used:		Date and Time of Transfusion:
Patient Qualifying RT PC	R:	
Result:	CT Value:	Date and Time of Specimen:
Patient Pre-Transfusion F	RT PCR:	
Result:	CT Value:	Date and Time of Specimen:
Patient 24 hour Post-Tran	nsfusion RT PCR:	
Result:	CT Value:	Date and Time of Specimen:
Patient 72 hour Post-Tran	nsfusion RT PCR:	
Result:	CT Value:	Date and Time of Specimen:
Patient 7 Days Post-Tran	sfusion RT PCR:	
Result:	CT Value:	Date and Time of Specimen:
Patient 14 Days Post-Tra	nsfusion RT PCR:	
Result:	CT Value:	Date and Time of Specimen:
Signature of coordinator		 Date
engination of occidentation		Dato
Signature of Investigator	reviewing data	Date

ABACCuS 28 Safety Form:					
Patient Initials/Study ID:	Date of Enrollment:				
Plasma Unit Used:	Date and Time of Transfusion:				
In the 2 hours after the transfusion: Did the patient have a rapid decline in respiratory status: Y	/N				
If yes: Date and Time:	Severity:				
If yes: Description of the event:					
Did the patient have a rapid decline in clinical status: Y/N					
If yes: Date and Time:	Severity:				
If yes: Description of the event:					
In the 4 hours after the transfusion: Did the patient have a fever of >38 $^{\circ}$ C: Y/N $T_{max}$ : _	If yes: Date and Time:				
Did the patient have an allergic reaction: Y/N  Conjunctival Edema: Y/N Edema of Oral Area: Y/N  Generalized Flushing: Y/N Hypotension: Y/N  Maculopapular Rash: Y/N Pruritus (itching): Y/N  Urticaria (hives): Y/N	Localized Angioedema: Y/N				
In the 6 hours after the transfusion: Was the patient diagnosed with Transfusion Associated Cir	rculatory Overload (TACO): Y/N				
If yes: Date and Time:	Severity:				
Was the patient diagnosed with Transfusion Related Acute	Lung Injury (TRALI): Y/N				
If yes: Date and Time:	Severity:				
In the 24 hours after the transfusion: Did the patient have evidence of cytokine storm: Y/N					
If yes: Date and Time:	Severity:				
If yes: Description of the event:					
Signature of coordinator	Date				
Signature of Investigator reviewing data	Date				

ABACCuS 28 Day Ou	tcome Form Gro	oup A:						
Patient Initials/Study ID:			Date of Enrollment:					
Plasma Unit Used:			Date a	Date and Time of Transfusion:				
Primary Outcome:								
Was the patient intuba	ted within 28 days	s of the transfus	ion: Y/N					
If intubated: Date of intubation:				Day #:				
Secondary Outcomes	<b>5</b> :							
	Carron (1) No limitation	ig supplemental asive ventilation	O <sub>2</sub> or high flo	O (4) Req w O <sub>2</sub> device	luiring supp			
Cardio-circulatory an	` '	ys of transfusion	on: Y/N		If so c	late:		
Renal failure by RIFLE criteria within 28 days of trans				Y/N	If so c	date:		
	B days of transfu T or AST >5x three rsening of preex	ne upper limit c			If so o	late:		
Evidence of cytokine	storm based or	n inflammatory	markers:	Y/N	If so c	late:		
Days on ventilator: _	Days off	ventilator:	_ Days o	on coldflov	N:			
Days on CPAP:	Days on I	BIPAP:	Days o	Days on non-rebreather:				
Days on NC:	Days on I	Hiflo NC:	_ Discha	Discharge on new home O <sub>2</sub> : Y/N				
Requirement of pres	sor support: Y/N							
Pressors used	d and dates of u	se:						
In hospital mortality: Length of Stay: Readmission: Y/N	_ ICU Leng	days: Y/N th of Stay:	<del></del>			date:		
	55 4.49			<del> </del>	55 6			
Signature of coordinate	or			Date		-		

Date

Signature of Investigator reviewing data

ABACCuS Final Outcor	me Form Group A:		
Patient Initials/Study ID:		Date of Enrollment:	
Plasma Unit Used:		Date and Time of Transfusion:	
Primary Outcome:			
Was the patient intubated	d after the transfusion: Y/N		
If intubated: Da	ate of intubation:	Study Day #:	
<b>Secondary Outcomes:</b>			
O Hospitalized, O O	int ordinal scale: (1) No limitations on activities (3) Not requiring supplemental O (5) On non-invasive ventilation of (6) On invasive mechanical ventif (7) Deceased	$O(4)$ Re high flow $O_2$ devi	equiring supplemental O <sub>2</sub>
Cardio-circulatory arrest after transfusion: Y/N		If so date:	
Renal failure by RIFLE criteria after transfusion: Y/N		If so date:	
	fusion: Y/N or AST >5x the upper limit of e ening of preexisting liver failure		If so date: AST of >25%: Y/N
Evidence of cytokine s	torm based on inflammatory m	arkers: Y/N	If so date:
Days on ventilator:	Days off ventilator:	Days on coldflo	ow:
Days on CPAP:	Days on BIPAP:	Days on non-rebreather:	
Days on NC: Days on Hiflo NC:		Discharge on new home O <sub>2</sub> : Y/N	
Requirement of presso	or support: Y/N		
Pressors used a	and dates of use:		
In hospital mortality: Y/Length of Stay: Readmission: Y/N		_	If so date:
Signature of coordinator		Date	
Signature of Investigator reviewing data		Date	