

RECOVERY Convalescent Plasma COLLECTION OF BASELINE SERUM SAMPLES Guide for local clinical/research staff

Since V8.0 of the RECOVERY Trial protocol, all participants entering the convalescent plasma comparison are required to have a baseline serum sample collected. The presence of coronavirus, and antibodies against, it will be measured and used in the analysis of this comparison. For example, to see if people who already have some antibodies get more or less benefit from convalescent plasma compared to people who don't have such antibodies.

In order to collect and process these samples please do the following:

1. Obtain informed consent

As before, there is a question on the consent form to indicate whether or not the patient is willing to enter the convalescent comparison. This now mentions the collection of this sample.

2. BEFORE proceeding to randomise the patient, please collect a serum sample

It is important that this sample is collected before randomisation as its collection must not be affected by whether or not the participant was allocated convalescent plasma or control. The randomisation form will check that such a sample has been collected and will not allow randomisation without such confirmation.

These samples can be collected at the same time as other routine blood tests. Please use a **6 mL serum tube** (usually red top or yellow top) for adults and older children; paediatric or neonatal equivalent for younger children and infants.



3. Label the tube according to your hospital's standard procedure

If your hospital label does not already provide such information, please ensure the sample is labelled with:

- a) Identifiers (name, date of birth, NHS and/or hospital number)
- b) Date and time of collection
- c) "RECOVERY": please write this on the label so the lab know what the sample is for

4. Place the tube in a clear specimen bag

Write on the bag using a marker pen or sticky label **RECOVERY – Transfusion Lab**
Send the sample to your hospital transfusion laboratory

The sample will then be prepared for transfer to the NHSBT central laboratory where the analyses will be conducted.

If you have any questions, please call 0800 1385451 or e-mail
recoverytrial@ndph.ox.ac.uk

Thank you very much for your help.