



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

09 March 2021

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR
No. 2021- 0102

TO: ALL CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORS, CHIEF OF HOSPITALS/MEDICAL CENTERS/ SANITARIA, REGIONAL BLOOD PROGRAM COORDINATORS, BLOOD BANK HEADS, LEAD BLOOD SERVICE FACILITIES, PROVINCIAL HEALTH OFFICERS, PHILIPPINE RED CROSS OFFICIALS, MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (MOH-BARMM), AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: Updating of Timing of Blood Donation When Donors Receive COVID-19 Vaccine in the A to Z Guide to Medical Assessment of Blood Donors

Per World Health Organization (WHO), the purpose of donor selection is to assess the suitability of an individual to be a blood donor. This is to ensure that blood donation is safe for the donor and the blood products derived from this donation are safe for the recipients.

As COVID-19 continuously affects the world, one of the breakthrough events is the availability of COVID-19 vaccines. As the Philippines implements the “The National Deployment and Vaccination Plan for COVID-19 Vaccines”, the National Voluntary Blood Services Program (NVBSP) has taken into account the need to update the existing guidelines which is enumerated in Appendix C of the Manual on Blood Donor Selection and Counseling and Department Circular 2018-0142 (**Annex A**) in the timing of blood donation especially for blood donors who received vaccination against COVID-19.

The NVBSP has recommended to update the list of vaccines with the following deferral period of blood donation for individuals who have received a vaccination against COVID-19:

Type of COVID-19 Vaccines	Timing of Blood Donation
Live attenuated vaccine	28 days after vaccination
Viral-vector based vaccine (non-replicating)	28 days after vaccination
Inactivated vaccine	28 days after vaccination
Subunit vaccine	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
mRNA-based vaccine	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Unknown vaccine type	28 days after vaccination

NOTE:


If a person experiences vaccine-related symptoms such as fever, rashes, muscle ache, joint pain

Further deferral of 28 days after resolution of symptoms

Dissemination of information to all concerned is hereby requested.

For strict compliance.

By the Authority of the Secretary of Health:



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ANNEX A.

Timing of Blood Donation When Donor Received Vaccine

(Based on NVBSP Blood Donor Selection and Counselling Manual © 2011)

I. Live Attenuated Vaccine	Timing of Donation
AH1N1 Influenza	1 month after vaccination
Bacillus Calmettes-Guerin (BCG) for Tuberculosis	1 month after vaccination
Chicken pox (Varicella Zoster)	1 month after vaccination
Measles	1 month after vaccination
Mumps	1 month after vaccination
Polio (oral, Sabin)	1 month after last dose
Rabies (no exposure, for prophylaxis)	1 month after last dose
Rabies (post animal bite)	12 months after last dose
Typhoid (oral)	1 month after last dose
Yellow fever	1 month after vaccination
Vaccinia (small pox)	1 month after vaccination
II. Other Vaccines	
Cervical Cancer (HPV)	4 weeks after vaccination
Japanese encephalitis	3 weeks after vaccination
MMR (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella)	8 weeks after vaccination
Plague	4 weeks after vaccination
Rabies (non-exposure)	4 weeks after vaccination
Rubella	8 weeks after vaccination
III. Killed Vaccines/ Toxoids	
Anthrax	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Botulism	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Cholera	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Diphtheria	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Hemophilus influenza type B (HIB)	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Hepatitis A (non-exposure)	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Hepatitis B (non-exposure)	1 week after vaccination
Influenza	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Meningococcal	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Pertussis (whooping cough)	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Pneumococcal	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Tetanus	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Typhoid (injection only)	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
Typhus	Accept, anytime if asymptomatic
IV. Gamma Globulins	
For contact with Hepatitis A	6 weeks from last injection
For contact with Hepatitis B	One year from exposure
Tetanus Immunoglobulin	One year from last dose
Rabies, post exposure	One year from last dose

(Based on Department Circular No. 2018-0142: Updating of A-Z Guide to Medical Assessment of Blood Donors: Timing of Blood Donation When Donors Receive Vaccines)

Newly added vaccine/s:	Timing of Donation
Dengue Vaccine	1 month after vaccination