

PLASMA DONORS AND EMPLOYEES ARE ESSENTIAL AS PART OF THE “CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE INDUSTRY”

To Whom it May Concern:

Grifols operates a network of blood plasma donor centers under the names Biomat USA, Inc., BPC Plasma, Inc., Interstate Blood Bank, Inc., GCAM, Inc., and Talecris Plasma Resources, Inc. These centers provide the blood plasma necessary for Grifols to manufacture the essential medicines used to treat rare, chronic and, at times, life-threatening conditions, including potentially COVID-19 (for which Grifols is working in collaboration with the FDA and the U.S. Biomedical Advanced Research Authority (BARDA) and other federal health agencies). Therefore, the Grifols family of companies and plasma donors are considered part of the “**critical infrastructure industry**” according to the President’s Coronavirus Guidelines for America (specifically referenced by the California Stay at Home Order as well as the County of Los Angeles Safer at Home Order, and the recent Regional Stay Home Order and its Supplement) which state: “If you work in a critical infrastructure industry, as defined by the Department of Homeland Security, such as healthcare services and pharmaceutical and food supply, you have a special responsibility to maintain your normal work schedule.”

In fact, the following are specifically exempted from these orders (see, e.g., p. 5 of the CISA Memo):

- Blood and plasma donors and the employees of the organizations that operate and manage related activities
- Source plasma and blood donation
- Manufacturers, technicians, logistics and warehouse operators, and distributors of medical equipment ... pharmaceuticals, blood and blood products, vaccines, and testing materials, laboratory supplies
- Workers conducting research critical to COVID-19 response
- Workers performing security, incident management, and emergency operations functions at or on behalf of healthcare entities

Therefore, our centers where plasma is donated, our manufacturing facilities, warehouses, including the employees, donors, and support staff, are within the category of essential, critical infrastructure that is exempted from general lockdown or closure pursuant to the above-mentioned guidelines and orders. Of course, we have implemented mitigation strategies and procedures that align with these guidelines/orders. These include the use of masks, social distancing and decreasing donor and employee congregation, enhancing existing cleaning protocols, monitoring employee and donor temperatures, and following guidelines on hand hygiene.

If you have any further questions relating to this subject matter, please contact Simon Manoucherian at (323) 227-7685 or Vlasta Hakes at (202) 293-1506.

Thank you.

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