



Blood/Blood Products: Safe Transportation to/from Transfusion Medicine

Site Applicability

SPH and MSJ

Practice Level

Any qualified hospital staff e.g. Physician, Nurse, Porter, Unit Clerk may transport blood/blood products to/from Transfusion Medicine; this includes products that are placed in a cooler or transport box.

Qualified Staff

All staff who transport product, other than nurses who have completed the learning hub course “Nursing Competency: Blood/Blood Product Administration”, will be required to annually read this document and sign a log before picking up product in Transfusion Medicine. The read and sign log will be housed in the Transfusion Medicine laboratory at SPH and the laboratory at MSJ.

Requirements

The transport of all blood/blood products must comply with standards set out by Health Canada, The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) the Canadian Society of Transfusion Medicine (CSTM) and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia’s Diagnostic Accreditation Program (DAP).

Guideline

1. Prior to Arriving at Transfusion Medicine
 - a. Ensure you have your hospital identification on and visible
 - b. Obtain the CST-Cerner-generated product request form (Transfusion Medicine services order notification) or the PHC-NF166 Blood product request form (Downtime pick-up slip), which can be brought down in person/tubbed or faxed to Transfusion Medicine
 - c. When requested, go directly to Transfusion Medicine
2. At Transfusion Medicine
 - a. Present the CST-Cerner-generated product request form or the PHC-NF166 product request form (advise lab staff that it has already been sent)
 - b. Complete “picked-up by” section on the product request form section on PHC-NF166 or print name on the CST-Cerner-generated product request form
3. Transporting Blood/Blood Product
 - a. Deliver the blood/blood product directly to the unit



- b. Delivery time must be within 10 minutes
 - c. Do not stop for any reason
- 4. Safe Handling of Blood/Blood Product
 - a. Do not transport the blood/blood product close to anything hot and/or cold
 - b. Do not shake/agitate the blood/blood product
 - c. If you drop the blood/blood product, and it is safe to do so, return product immediately to Transfusion Medicine
- 5. At patient location (Ward/Unit)
 - a. Hand the blood/blood product directly to the staff who requested it OR place it in the Transfusion Medicine approved satellite fridge and notify requesting staff that it is there
 - b. Do not leave the product un-attended
- 6. Returning Blood/Blood Product (within 30 minutes of leaving Transfusion Medicine)
 - a. Go directly to Transfusion Medicine with product
 - b. Give the blood/blood product directly to the Transfusion Medicine staff
- 7. Leaking/Damaged Blood/Blood Product
 - a. Put on gloves immediately
 - b. Put blood/blood product into biohazard bag
 - c. Return it immediately to Transfusion Medicine
 - d. Remove gloves, wash hands and report to Manager for follow-up

Note: If blood/blood product leaks or is broken, notify Transfusion Medicine as soon as possible

References

1. Canadian Society for Transfusion Medicine (2021). *Standard for hospital transfusion services* (Version 5). Ottawa, ON.
2. Canada Standards Association (2020). *Blood and blood components Z902-20*. Mississauga, ON.



Persons/Groups Consulted:

Team Lead Transfusion Medicine SPH
Site Supervisor Clinical Lab MSJ
Technical Coordinator Transfusion Medicine SPH
Clinical Nurse Specialist IV Therapy SPH

Developer:

Nurse Clinician Transfusion Medicine

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