# Applicable Laboratory(s)):

[x]  North Carolina Baptist Hospital (NCBH)

[ ]  Lexington Medical Center (LMC)

[ ]  Davie Medical Center (DMC)

[ ]  Wilkes Medical Center (WMC)

[ ]  High Point Medical Center (HPMC)

[ ]  Westchester

[ ]  Clemmons

# Procedure Statement

The purpose of this policy is to outline the agreement between Forsyth and Stokes County EMS and Blood Bank at WFBMC to provide blood in a storage capacity meeting all of the regulatory and accreditation requirements for storage and transfusion of blood.

Blood products will be supplied as needed in validated 5-day canvas coolers to Forsyth/Stokes County EMS to support the Medical Centers mission of providing emergent care for blood transfusion when necessary to the communities it serves.

# Scope

i. Protocol owner/Implementer: Julie H. Simmons/Christina S. Warren/R. Darrell Nelson, MD.

 (Medical Director of Forsyth/Stokes County EMS)

ii. Protocol prepared by: Julie H Simmons

iii Who performs protocol: Department staff/management /Trained Forsyth and Stokes County

 EMS staff

# Definitions

1. Policy: As defined in the Policy on Creating and Amending Policy, a statement of principle that is developed for the purpose of guiding decisions and activities related to governance, administration, or management of care, treatment, services or other activities of WFBH.  A policy may help to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations, promote one or more of the missions of WFBH, contain guidelines for governance, and set parameters within which faculty, staff, students, visitors and others are expected to operate.
2. WFBH Lab System: Wake Forest Baptist Lab System is a health system that includes Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center and all affiliated organizations including Wake Forest University Health Sciences (WFUHS), North Carolina Baptist Hospital (NCBH), Lexington Medical Center (LMC), Davie Medical Center (DMC), Wilkes Medical Center (WMC), High Point Medical Center (HPMC), Lab at Westchester and Lab at Clemmons.
3. EMS Emergency Medical Service
4. 5-day Cooler: Pelican canvas cooler with 5 day insert panels validated for 5 days.

 (4 days in summer months June-August)

1. SCC: Soft Computer, Blood Bank computer system

# Policy Guidelines

1. Content
2. Blood Bank will provide validated coolers to Forsyth(2 coolers)/Stokes(1 cooler) County EMS.
3. If the cooler is damaged during use (becomes too bloodied to clean, etc.), then Forsyth or Stokes county will replace the cooler.
4. Education and successful completion of quiz (≥80%) is required of Forsyth/Stokes County EMS staff that will handle the coolers. Documentation of training will be provided to WFBMC Blood Bank upon request.
5. The coolers will be stocked with Group O neg or Group O pos whole blood units (when Group O neg shortages) and/or Group O neg or Group O pos packed red blood cells and Group A liquid plasma (during whole blood shortages).

a. The coolers will be dispensed to Forsyth or Stokes County EMS employees or

 designated courier to support the Medical Centers mission of providing emergent care

 for blood transfusion when necessary to the communities it serves.

1. Blood Bank will provide 1 unit of Group O neg or Group O pos whole blood or 1 unit of

Group O neg/pos packed leukoreduced red cell AND 1 unit of Group A plasma (when whole blood is unavailable) for each of the coolers. In times of blood shortages, Group O negative units may not be available and Group O positive units may be substituted.

1. Forsyth/Stokes County EMS will obtain blood units only from the Blood Bank at WFBMC and

will store only the blood products obtained from WFBMC Blood Bank in the coolers.

1. All units issued to Forsyth/Stokes County EMS will have Safe-T-Vue indicators attached to

the back of the unit to monitor the temperature during storage outside the Blood Bank environment. Each unit will have an orange uncrossmatched blood sticker applied.

 Acceptable criteria: white, white speckled with red (1- 10C)

 Unacceptable criteria: completely red (greater than 10C or less than 1C)



1. There will be an Emergency Release form for each unit in the plastic sleeve of the coolers.

7.0 All units transfused MUST have a Blood Bank Emergency Release Form completed for the patient, signed by the ordering physician AND returned to the Blood Bank. These completed forms can be stored in the returned cooler, scanned and emailed or faxed by Forsyth/Stokes County EMS within 24 hours of transfusion.

8.0 Each transfused unit will be audited by the Blood Bank Medical Director for the below documentation in patient’s EMS chart:

a. Unit Number

b. Volume of blood transfused

c. Indication for transfusion (e.g. acute hypovolemia)

d. Whether or not any adverse reactions were noted.

9.0 Utilization Review will be conducted if units are issued, transfused or wasted.

10.0 When a transfusion reaction is reported, the policies and procedures for nursing will be

 followed. A blood specimen and the unit will be returned to the Blood Bank for investigation.

11.0 Blood Bank will retain returned Blood Bank Emergency Release forms for 10 years.

12.0 When patients are transferred to another hospital with blood transfused, Forsyth/Stokes County EMS will provide the Blood Bank the identity of the other hospital and the patient on the Blood Bank Emergency Release.

13.0 The Blood Bank will attempt to arrange the transfer of blood units to the other facility if

possible. If this is not possible, then the units will be billed to Forsyth/Stokes County EMS using Medical Record Numbers: Forsyth (TBD) Stokes (TBD)

14.0 When patient expires at the scene and blood is infused, units will be billed to

 Forsyth/Stokes EMS using the Medical Record Numbers above.

15.0 When patients are admitted at a Wake Forest Baptist Health facility, the individual

 patient medical chart will be billed in Wake.

16.0 All blood units dispensed to Forsyth/Stokes County EMS will have the location changed

 in SCC to track inventory.

17.0 Forsyth/Stokes County EMS will notify Blood Bank when there is a need for additional

blood/or an exchange of coolers. If notification does not occur, then cooler preparation may be delayed.

Forsyth/Stokes County EMS Coolers (5-day Canvas Bags)

1. The 5-day Canvas Bag cooler will have conditioned liners inserted along with a global

sensor data logger. The data logger will be programmed for 30 minute intervals.

2.0 The conditioning of the cooler liners will ONLY be prepared by the Blood Bank.

2.1 Precondition liners when Forsyth/Stokes County EMS notifies the Blood Bank.

3.0 The cooler lids, inserts and panels will have quality control performed every other year by the Blood Bank once they have been validated at receipt (new).

4.0 Blood units will be maintained in the cooler and routinely returned to us prior to the 5th day. However, during June through September the coolers will be evaluated to determine if return time will be shorter.

5.0 Coolers for the blood units will be refreshed or restocked by Blood Bank every 4 to 5

 days (depending on time of year).

6.0 Blood units will not be removed from the cooler to be stored in another location.

7.0 The coolers will have RFID tags on the outside and be tracked by the SPOT program on screen as coolers.

8.0 Coolers will not be stored in refrigerators or freezers outside the Blood Bank.

9.0 Blood Bank will condition liners and pack the coolers according to Blood Bank procedure.

 9.1 Coolers will be zipped up and secured with a red fastener.

9.2 Emergency Release forms (1 per unit)must be folded and inserted in the outside pocket.

10.0 The expiration date and time of the cooler (time it must be returned to the Blood Bank) will

 be recorded on a card that is placed in the clear plastic pocket attached to the cooler.

11.0 Blood Bank will record on the Blood Bank Issue form, the unit # and product code (E code),

date to be returned, and temperature of cooler at time of issuing. Forsyth/Stokes County EMS must sign the Blood Bank Issue slip before removal from the Blood Bank. The Issue form is stored in Blood Bank in the clip for Air Care/\*\*\*County EMS.

# References

# Related policies/procedures (navex)

# Attachments/Linked documents (title 21)

EMS Coolers Power Point

EMS Quiz

# Revision Dates: Review Change Summary as represented in Title 21.