

PROCEDURE

Corewell Health East - Storing and Disposing of Blood Bank Samples

This Procedure is Applicable to the following Corewell Health sites:

Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital, Corewell Health Beaumont Troy Hospital, Corewell Health Dearborn Hospital, Corewell Health Farmington Hills Hospital, Corewell Health Taylor Hospital, Corewell Health Trenton Hospital, Corewell Health Wayne Hospital, Corewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital (Royal Oak)

Applicability Limited to:	N/A
Reference #:	33893
Version #:	3
Effective Date:	11/19/2025
Functional Area:	Clinical Operations, Laboratory
Lab Department Area:	Lab - Blood Bank

1. Principle

This procedure outlines the proper storage and retention of patient samples and unit segments in the Blood Bank. This ensures that additional testing can be performed upon request or in the event of a suspected transfusion reaction.

2. Responsibility

Personnel who have completed the competency requirements will perform these tasks.

3. Supplies Needed

- A. Storage Racks
- B. Protective Gloves
- C. Labels
- D. Biohazard Bags
- E. Biohazard Waste Bin

4. Procedure

A. Sample Storage

1. Samples are retained in storage for the minimum retention time as defined by the table in Section 4.B. Sample Disposal.

2. Royal Oak

- a. If samples have testing performed, then the original cap may be replaced with a color coded cap indicating the day of the week. This cap may be labeled with the first two letters of the patient's last name.
- b. Letters on caps of stored samples must not be used to identify the sample, letters are used to locate the sample.

Royal Oak			
Sample Description	Storage Rack	Sample Location	Location
RhIG Evaluations, Cord Bloods	Patient Sample Racks	RhIG/Cord Section	Walk-in Refrigerator
Samples with completed Antibody Investigations or serologic crossmatches		Problem Section	
Mislabeled and Extra Samples, Testing Not Performed		FNT*/Extra/Mislabeled Section	
All Other Samples in Patient Rack		Samples stored according to draw date, then placed in the row corresponding to the last digit of the patient MRN.	
No Order Cord Bloods	Cord Blood Rack	Samples stored according to draw date.	
Samples Requiring Antibody Investigation	Supervisor Review Rack	Samples stored in the row corresponding to the last digit of the MRN.	
Reference Lab Samples	Outreach Rack	Stored in dated Outreach racks according to draw date.	
Donor Unit Segments	Segments are stored according to day of retype testing.		
Frozen Aliquots for Antibody Titrations	Frozen Aliquot Rack	Stored according to month.	Freezer #9

*File Not Tested

3. Farmington Hills

Farmington Hills	
Sample Description	Storage Rack
Inpatient Samples	All in the same rack labeled with the date, each sample cap labeled with the first 2 letters of the last name.
Outpatient Samples	
No Order Samples	
Cord Bloods	
Specimens with Specialized Testing*	
Donor Unit Segments	Segments are collected for the day and stored in a larger bag for the month.
Frozen Aliquots for Antibody Titrations	Freezer Rack
Rejected Samples	Rejected Sample Rack

*Note: Specialized testing may include, but is not limited to, Transfusion Reaction Workups, Pathologist Review of Antibody Identifications, Antibody Titers, and pending molecular tests

4. Dearborn

Entities will reference associated Documentation contained within this document as applicable
Printouts of this document may be out of date and should be considered uncontrolled.

Dearborn		
Sample Description	Storage Rack	Location
Inpatient Samples	Patient Sample Rack	Active Samples: Refrigerator #5 Inactive Samples: Refrigerator #4
Outpatient Samples		
Ordered Cord Bloods		
Infant Type and Screens		
Donor Unit Segments	Segments are collected for the day and stored in a larger bag for the week (Mon-Sun).	Refrigerator #4
Frozen Aliquots for Antibody Titrations	Frozen Aliquot Rack	Freezer
Postpartum RhIG Samples	Postpartum Sample Rack	Refrigerator #4
Rejected Samples	Rejected Sample Rack	Refrigerator #3
No Order Cord Bloods	No Order Cords Rack	Refrigerator #4

5. Troy

Troy	
Sample Description	Location
Patient Samples	Helmer Double Door
Rejected Samples	
Donor Unit Segments	Jewett Double Door Refrigerator
Frozen Aliquots for Antibody Titrations	Thermo Fisher Freezer

6. Grosse Pointe

Grosse Pointe		
Sample Description	Storage Rack	Location
Patient Samples	Patient Sample Rack	Refrigerator #1
Rejected Samples	Unacceptable Samples Rack	
No Order Samples	Extra Samples Rack	
Donor Unit Segments	Segments are collected for the day and stored in a larger bag for the week (Mon-Sun).	
Frozen Aliquots for Antibody Titrations	Patient Sample Rack	Helmer Freezer

7. Taylor

Taylor	
Sample Description	Location
Patient Samples	Blood Bank Refrigerator #1

Entities will reference associated Documentation contained within this document as applicable
Printouts of this document may be out of date and should be considered uncontrolled.

Donor Unit Segments	Segments are collected for the day and stored in a larger bag for the month.
Rejected Samples	Blood Bank Refrigerator #2

8. Trenton

- See attachment 33893-01 *Trenton Storage Racks* for specific patient sample storage and disposal.

Trenton	
Sample Description	Location
Patient Samples	Helmer Refrigerator Segments are collected according to day of transfusion and stored in a larger bag for the week.
Donor Unit Segments	
No Order Samples	
Mislabeled, Rejected Samples	

9. Wayne

Wayne	
Sample Description	Location
Patient Samples	Follett Refrigerator Segments are collected for the week according to transfusion date and stored in a larger bag for the month.
Donor Unit Segments	
No Order Cord Bloods	
Rejected Samples	

B. Sample Disposal

- Sample racks and donor segment bags are removed from storage after the defined minimum retention outlined in the table below.
- Specimens and segments are disposed of in a biohazard bin.
- After disposal, the date should be updated on all dated racks.

Sample Description	Minimum Storage Period
Inpatient Samples	2 weeks
Outpatient Samples	1 week
Rejected Samples	2 weeks
No Order (Extra) Pink Tops	3 days
Cord Bloods	1 week
Donor Unit Segments	10 weeks after product receipt or 4 weeks after product issue
Frozen Aliquots for Antibody Titrations	Until titration testing is completed or a maximum of 1 year
Specimens with Specialized Testing*	May be kept up to 1 month

Note: Specialized testing may include, but is not limited to, Transfusion Reaction Workups, Pathologist Review of Antibody Identifications, Antibody Titers, and pending molecular tests.

5. Revisions

Entities will reference associated Documentation contained within this document as applicable
Printouts of this document may be out of date and should be considered uncontrolled.

Corewell Health reserves the right to alter, amend, modify, or eliminate this document at any time without prior written notice.

- 6. Procedures Superseded and Replaced:** This procedure supersedes and replaces the following procedures as of the effective date of this procedure: [33989 Corewell Health East – Storing and Disposing of Blood Bank Samples – Troy, 33926 Corewell Health East – Storing and Disposing of Patient Samples Blood Bank – Royal Oak, 33812 Corewell Health East – Storing and Disposing of Patient Samples Blood Bank – Dearborn, 33865 Corewell Health East – Storing and Disposing of Patient Samples Blood Bank – Farmington Hills, 33947 Corewell Health East – Storing and Disposing of Patient Samples in the Blood Bank – Taylor, Trenton, Wayne]

7. References

- A. AABB Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, current edition

8. Procedure Development and Approval

Document Owner:

Laura Judd (Operations Specialist)

Writer(s):

Danae Regan (Medical Technologist Lead)

Reviewer(s):

Alyssa Malone (Medical Technologist Lead), Fatima Bazzi (Supv, Laboratory), Hilary Morey (Medical Technologist Lead), Karrie Torgerson (Medical Technologist Lead), Melissa Bajcz (Medical Technologist Lead), Susan Pelley (Medical Technologist Lead), Suzanne Chahine (Medical Technologist Lead)

Approver:

Ann Marie Blenc (System Med Dir, Hematopath), Brittnie Berger (Dir Sr, Lab Operations), Christopher Ferguson (Dir, Laboratory Services), Elzbieta Wysteppek (Dir, Laboratory Services), Fatima Bazzi (Supv, Laboratory), Hassan Kanaan (OUWB Clinical Faculty), Jeremy Powers (Chief, Pathology), John Pui (Chief, Pathology), Kelly Sartor (Mgr, Division Laboratory), Kristina Davis (Staff Physician), Laura Judd (Operations Specialist), Masood Siddiqui (Staff Pathologist), Muhammad Arshad (Chief, Pathology), Ryan Johnson (OUWB Clinical Faculty), Sarah Britton (VP, Laboratory Svcs), Teresa Lovins (Supv, Laboratory)

9. Keywords

Not Set