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|  Franciscan Health System St. Anthony Hospital Gig Harbor, WA St. Clare Hospital Lakewood, WA St. Francis Hospital Federal Way, WA St. Joseph Medical Center Tacoma, WA | WORK INSTRUCTION | DOCUMENT NUMBER R-W-TS0308-03 |
| | | Copy ID J01, J02, C, F, A |
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| VISUAL INSPECTION OF BLOOD COMPONENTS | | |

PURPOSE

To provide instructions and requirements for visually inspecting blood components when received, labeled, shipped, or issued.

BACKGROUND

Inspecting blood components before shipping, receiving, labeling or issuing helps ensure that they are handled, stored, and transported in a manner that prevents damage, limits deterioration, and meets all regulatory requirements.

EQUIPMENT / SUPPLIES

Cerner Lab Information System
Shipping Invoice from supplier


STEPS

- Blood products are visually inspected at the following times and results recorded as follows:
 - Upon receipt of the product**--*record results on shipping invoice or USL slip, initial and date.*
 - Upon selection of the product for labeling after cross-match**--*labeling is acknowledgment that product has been inspected and is acceptable.*
 - Upon selection of the product for transfusion (dispensing)**--*record results in DIS.*
 - Upon return of the product after issue**--*record results in RBB*
 - Upon packing the product for shipping**--*record results on UST, initial, and date.*
- The visual inspection is performed according to the following criteria. Products not meeting criteria are put into quarantine status: (SFH, SCH and SAH) are to call the SJMC Transfusion Service, mark unit with quarantine tag, and put in quarantine area of refrigerator for return to SJMC with next courier)

RED BLOOD CELLS:

- Color:** Plasma should be clear and not hemolyzed, brown or red. (green plasma may be the result of oral contraceptives)
- Appearance:** Red cell mass should not be purple, or have a zone of hemolysis above it. There should be no visible clots. (sometimes segments may have hemolysis or clots due to improper stripping, but the visible plasma in the unit itself should have no hemolysis or clots).

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|--|---------------------|-------------|
| File: H/Transfusion/ Work Instructions | Effective: 06/15/06 | Page 1 of 3 |
| Related Doc: R-W-TS0310 | | |

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- Temperature: Product should show no evidence of having been out of temperature range of 1-6°C, i.e. arrive packed on wet ice and not warm to the touch.
- Label: Label must be complete, legible and intact, and firmly attached to the bag.
- Bag or Container: Container must be intact, with no cracks or leaks. There must be at least one sealed segment of integral donor tubing remaining attached to the bag.


FRESH FROZEN PLASMA AND CRYOPRECIPITATE:

- Color: Clear and yellow, not icteric. (Lipemia is acceptable)
- Temperature: Frozen product should show no evidence of having been out of temperature range i.e. -18 to -65°C, for FFP and CRYO which should arrive packed on dry ice.
- Label: Label must be complete, legible, intact, and firmly attached to the bag.
- Bag or Container: Container must be intact, with no cracks or leaks.

THAWED FRESH FROZEN PLASMA AND THAWED CRYOPRECIPITATE:

- Color: FFP and CRYO should be clear and yellow, not icteric. (Lipemia is acceptable)
- Appearance: Liquid should be clear with no visible mucous-like clots or globs.
- Temperature: Thawed Product should show no evidence of having been out of temperature range i.e. 1-6°C for thawed FFP, which should arrive packed in wet ice and not warm to the touch, and 20-24°C for thawed Cryo, which should arrive at room temperature, not shipped on ice.
- Label: Label must be complete, legible, intact, and firmly attached to the bag.
- Bag or Container: Container must be intact, with no cracks or leaks.

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|--|---------------------|-------------|
| File: H/Transfusion/ Work Instructions | Effective: 06/15/06 | Page 2 of 3 |
| Related Doc: R-W-TS0310 | | |

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PLATELET PRODUCTS:

- Color: Platelet products should be yellow and not icteric or red. Check for “shimmer” and “swirling.”
- Appearance: Liquid should be clear with no fibrous mats or globs.
- Temperature: Product should show no evidence of having been out of temperature range of 20-24 °C, arriving shipped at room temperature.
- Label: Label must be complete, legible, intact, and firmly attached to the bag.
- Bag or Container: Container must be intact, with no cracks or leaks.

REFERENCE

AABB Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services

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| File: H/Transfusion/ Work Instructions | Effective: 06/15/06 | Page 3 of 3 |
| Related Doc: R-W-TS0310 | | |