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**Owner:** *Tim Malone: Manager, Transfusion Services*  
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**Standards:**  
**Applicability:** *Saints Anthony, Francis, Joseph, Clare + Highline and Harrison*

## Safe-T-Vue Temperature Indicator Use M-W-TS-0317-02

### PURPOSE

To provide instruction for use of Safe-T-Vue temperature indicators, which are designed to monitor temperature of blood components while out of controlled storage. Safe-T-Vue indicators are to be used on emergency release blood at SAH, SCH and SFH.

### MATERIALS

Safe-T-Vue Temperature Indicators

### STEPS

Safe-T-Vue indicators may be kept in the blood bank refrigerator for up to 2 months. After 2 months, remove Safe-T-Vue indicators from the refrigerator for 24 – 48 hours, and then return them to the blood bank refrigerator. This cycling may be repeated every 2 months.

1. Mark each box of indicators with the date it was first placed in the refrigerator and update as needed with dates of removal and return to the fridge as outlined in the paragraph above.
2. Before applying a Safe-T-Vue indicator to a unit of blood, make sure the indicator has been stored in the blood refrigerator for a minimum of 24 hours before activating. A supply of Safe-T-Vue indicators will be stored in the blood refrigerator at all times.
3. It is recommended, that a refrigerated cold pack be placed beneath blood products to keep them cold during the dispensing process.
4. Remove a Safe-T-Vue indicator from the blood refrigerator at the SAME TIME you remove the unit it will monitor.
5. Do not hold or touch the temperature sensitive indicator areas, as your hands can pre-warm the indicator and affect its accuracy. Take care to handle the Safe-T-Vue by the green-colored "doughnut" end.
6. Be sure to keep the Safe-T-Vue the same temperature as the blood. If applying to multiple units, immediately lay an indicator on top of the blood bag to be labeled, with the foil label containing the Safe-T-Vue instructions facing UP. Doing so BEFORE peeling off the white "Remove" label ensures each indicator is kept cold.

7. Peel off the white "REMOVE" label and attach Safe-T-Vue directly to the plastic of the blood bag with nothing between the indicator and the blood bag. The best spot may be toward the top of the blood bag.
8. Carefully peel off the white label with the printed directions. Do not touch the center indicator areas.
9. Fold the white round into the red round and press firmly until they snap together.
10. The blood is ready for transport to destination, or can be placed back into the refrigerator until needed.
11. Color Change Temperature Indication:
  - At approximately 9C the white dot will begin to gradually fill in with red dots
  - The appearance of small red dots is an indication that the blood should be cooled, re-refrigerated, or transfused immediately.
  - At 10C the dot will turn from white to completely red. Do not transfuse such a unit to the patient.
13. Only units with white indicators may be returned for reissue.
14. **Note:** Uniform temperature of all blood bags in any given refrigerator depends on the recovery rate and air circulation of the refrigerator. Temperature consistency is improved by storing blood bags in a vertical position with air space around them. Bags lying on top of each other can impede airflow, and may need longer to reach refrigerator temperature because they have less surface area exposed to the cold air.

## REFERENCE

Manufacturer's Package Insert, Safe-T-Vue, Temptime, Morris Plains, NJ 07950

## Attachments:

 image1.jpeg

## Approval Signatures

Approver	Date
Arlene Brennan: Administrative Coordinator	07/2018
Adam Saenz: MD, Medical Director	06/2018
Joren Keylock: MD, Medical Director	06/2018
Brian Folz: Medical Director	06/2018
Tim Wade: MD, Medical Director	06/2018
Shane Anderson: MD, Medical Director	06/2018
Linda Burkhardt: MD, Medical Director	06/2018
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## Applicability

Harrison Medical Center, Highline Medical Center, St. Anthony Hospital, St. Clare Hospital, St. Francis Hospital, St. Joseph Medical Center