### Issuing Blood in Hand Held Biohazard Cooler

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| **Purpose** |  This procedure describes how to prepare blood components for issue in a hand held Biohazard “cooler”. |
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| **Equipment/****Reagents/Supplies** | Equipment | Reagents | Supplies |
| * Hand Held Biohazard Cooler
 | * None
 | * Safe-T-Vue 6 stickers
* Blood Components
* Tie tag
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| **Policy** | * Only the Transfusion Service personnel may add blood components or ice to the cooler.
* A maximum of 6 RBC and 3 Jumbo plasma (that have been maintained at 4C for at least 10 hrs) may be packed in the same cooler at one time. **RT products MUST not be issued in Cooler.**
* Freshly thawed FFP MUST be issued in a separate cooler than RBC units.
* Safe-T-Vue indicators will only be applied to refrigerated products that have equilibrated to 1-6C.
* A component is to remain in the Cooler until it is needed for immediate transfusion.
* The lid to the cooler must be replaced immediately after removing the unit needed for transfusion and the cooler must remain closed between transfusions to maintain proper storage temperature.
* Unused blood products must be returned to the Transfusion Service immediately after the situation or procedure that required availability of multiple units of product at the bedside has passed. If the need for components exceeds 3 hrs, the cooler should be returned to the Transfusion Service for replenishment of ice and rotation of units.
* Each lot/shipment of Safe-T-Vue 6 stickers MUST be QC’d prior to use.
* Issuing blood in coolers is intended for use in emergency situations where multiple units of blood components are needed to be available at the bedside of the patient. The usual nursing units that make use of this are: ER, CT, Cath Lab, TNI, OR, L&D and when requested for OP Surgery Center, Building 4.
* Blood transported to the IVC Remote Blood Storage Refrigerator is not subject to this procedure.
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| **Procedure:** | Follow the steps in the table to perform this procedure: |
|  | Step | Action |
|  | 1. | Take cooler from storage area. |
|  | 2. | Double bag 5 ice scoops of “wet” ice. |
|  | 3. | Remove the selected product from the blood storage refrigerator. |
|  | 4. | Is a Safe-T-Vue sticker already on RBC unit?

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| **If:** | **Then:** |
| Yes | Skip to step 5 |
| No | Add the activated Safe-T-Vue sticker to the unit.*See “ Activating and Interpreting the Safe-t-Vue 6 Temperature Indicator” SOP for instructions.* |

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|  | 5. | Check to make sure that the indicator circle is not red.

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| **If:** | **Then:** |
| Circle is not completely red | Proceed to next step |
| Circle is completely red | Remove and discard the indicatorApply new activated Safe-T-Vue indicator |

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|  | 6. | Issue units according to SOP, recording cooler number in comment section of computer. |
|  | 7. | Place blood units into bottom of cooler. |
|  | 8.. | Place a piece of bubble wrap on top to the units and the bag of ice on top of the bubble wrap. |
|  | 9. | Close cooler. |
|  | 10. | Attach tie tag with patient’s name, date of issue and return time to handle of cooler. |
|  | 11. | Write patient name, date & time of issue on white grease board in Blood Bank next to the appropriate cooler number. |

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| References | * Safe-T-Vue 6 Package Insert
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| Related Documents | Issuing of Blood ComponentsActivating and Interpreting the Safe-T-Vue 6 Temperature Indicator |
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| Attachments | * Example tie tag for cooler.
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