[](http://depts.washington.edu/labweb/index.htm)

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| **University of Washington,**  **Harborview Medical Center**  **325 9th Ave. Seattle, WA, 98104**  **Transfusion Services Laboratory**  **Policies and Procedures Manual** | **Original Effective Date:**  **August 21, 2011** | **Number:**  **3014-1** |
| **Revision Effective Date:** | **Pages:**  **2** |
| **TITLE: Use and Maintenance of the Tempcheck Device** | | |

**Purpose:**

To describe the use and maintenance of the Tempcheck Device when measuring the temperature of blood products and the lab environment.

**Procedure:**

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| **Step** | **Action** | **Related Documents** |
| Blood Products | * To take the temperature of a blood product: * Hold the blood product so it is touching the Tempcheck in the center of the monitor platform. * The portion of the product container that is touching the sensor must be free of labels or condensation, which may act as an insulator. * Wait until the reading on the LED stabilizes at one temperature for a minimum of 10 seconds. * The product can be returned to inventory in allocated or available status if the temperature meets the blood storage requirements below. * The product must be returned to quarantine status if it does not meet the blood storage requirements below.  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Blood Product Type** | **Acceptable Temperature Range** | | Red Cells and Thawed Plasma | 1-10°C | | Platelets and Thawed Cryo | 20-24°C | | * Returning Blood Products to Inventory After Issue |
| Daily  Quality Control | * Record the following on the Tempcheck Daily QC Form on the appropriate date: * Time and Tech ID * Ambient Temperature—Current temperature reading on the Tempcheck LED. Should be 20-24°C. If outside this range, contact Engineering for thermostat adjustment, and repeat after adjustment. Document corrective action. * Digital LED temperature reading of R1 Blood Refrigerator. * Average of two internal thermometers in R1 * Temperature of a refrigerated RBC unit from R1. * choose a unit that has been in storage > 30 Minutes. * Temperature should agree with refrigerator temperatures ± 2° * If RBC temperature does not meet criteria, contact Lead. | * Tempcheck Daily QC Form |
| **Step** | **Action** | **Related Documents** |
| Annual Verification | Accuracy of the Tempcheck TC-3 is verified annually, or more often if required, by comparison with a NIST thermometer for each end of the temperature range required.   * Ambient Temperature: * Position the NIST thermometer across the Tempcheck monitor platform. * Wait 30 minutes for the NIST temperature to stabilize. * Record temperature readings on Thermometer Calibration Form * Reading should agree within 1 degree. * 0°C * Place wet ice in a plastic bag. * Insert NIST thermometer into the bag. * Place bag on the Tempcheck monitor platform, with the probe of the thermometer on the sensor. * Record readings on the Thermometer Calibration Form. * Readings should agree within 1 degree. * Calibration Logs are reviewed by Manager.   . | * Temperature Calibration Form |
| Manufacturer Calibration | * If the calibration results do not agree within a degree, or if drift occurs over time during daily QC, the unit is returned to the manufacturer by calibration. | Tropitronics, Inc.  319 Mola Ave.  Fort Lauderdale, FLA 33301  Phone:  954-5278553  954-525-5963 |

**References**

AABB Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, Current Edition.