**Purpose:**

This procedure provides instructions for the use of Portable Blood Refrigerators (PBR) in the Harborview Medical Center (HMC) Transfusion Service (TS) operations.

**Procedure:**

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|  | **Action** | **Related Documents** |
| **1.** | * When portable refrigerators are requested for use by a patient care area: * TS staff will deliver and return PBR to and from the patient care area. * Plug the PBR into power outlet immediately upon arriving in the patient care area. (Must be within 15 minutes of leaving Transfusion Service)   *Note: Emergency Power outlet is preferred.*   * Document on the Portable Refrigerator Log, and on the erasable board in the Transfusion Service: * Location and Fridge Number * Reason for Fridge * Response Date/Time * Patient Information | * + Portable Refrigerator Log |
| **2.** | * When stocking and dispensing blood to a PBR: * Confirm the PBR is operational   + Temperature is 1-6°C   + Compressor is running   + Graph is recording   + Erasable board is wiped clean * Perform Blood Product Issue using the Portable Refrigerator log to replace a BPR. Place a copy of the log in the BPR folder in TSL. * Complete a Portable Refrigerator Log or Trauma Response Log   + Unit numbers, Product type, and ABO/Rh   + Patient ABO/Rh * Place blood products directly on the top shelf of the refrigerator. * Stock only ONE patient’s blood per PBR. * Do NOT refrigerate platelets or cryoprecipitate. | * Blood Product Issue Process |
| **3.** | When arriving at the patient care area:   * Record the patient name and HID on the erasable board * Remain with the PBR until released by the Physician or charge nurse in a trauma or unstable bleeding situation * Unnecessary to remain with PBR when:   + RBCs are crossmatched **AND**   + Delivered to O.R. for duration of procedure **OR**   + Delivered to patient care area **OR**   + Released by Physician once patient is stable |  |
|  | **Action** | **Related Documents** | |
| **4.** | * When issuing or returning blood products to the PBR, record:   + Date/time   + Identification of the person removing/returning the unit |  |
| **5.** | * When leaving the PBR in a patient care area (e.g., PBR has been requested at the bedside or in O.R.): * Obtain signature of Clinical Care staff on the PR Log |  |
| **6.** | * If the patient is transferred to another location and still requires the PBR: * Transfer the PBR after placing the erasable board face down on top of the refrigerator * Notify TSL staff of new location so they can update the TSL board. * Note location change on the PR Log * Obtain signature of Clinical Care staff on the PR Log * Replace erasable board on front of PBR |  |
| **7.** | * When adding product to a PBR:   + Create a new log and obtain clinical care staff signature |  |
| **8.** | * When returning the PBR to the Transfusion Service:   + Before leaving the patient care area     - Confirm documentation of removal matches refrigerator contents.     - Reconcile any discrepancies     - Place erasable board face down on top of refrigerator   + Complete the Returned Section of the PBR log including Return Time.   + Examine “time out” for products removed and returned by clinical care staff.   + Perform visual inspection.   + Quarantine unacceptable or questionable products.   + Return Sunquest issued products using Blood Status Update.   + Complete Blood Product Issue for non-Sunquest issued transfused products.   + Return any unused blood products to the appropriate storage area.   + File Portable Refrigerator Log in the BPR file, removing and discarding the photocopy which was left for interim tracking. BIF report will be checked against this original log, which shows final disposition of all products.   Refrigerator:   * + Verify that the PBR temperature graph is recording.   + Clean both the exterior and interior surfaces of the PBR with a disinfectant solution designated for use on stainless steel.   + Wipe erasable board clean   + Document on the Portable Refrigerator Cleaning Log   + Plug into power outlet.   *Note: Emergency Power outlet is preferred.* | * + Blood Status Update.   + Blood Product Issue   + Portable Refrigerator Cleaning Log Form | |

**References:**

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

AABB Technical Manual, Current Edition.