**Purpose:**

To describe the Harborview Medical Center (HMC) Transfusion Services Laboratory (TSL) support of Airlift Northwest (ALNW) transfusion needs.

**Policy:**

HMC TSL will be responsible for the following processes;

* Support ALNW with universal blood products for use on patients during transportation to HMC or another hospital
* Stock and maintain the Credo Coolers. Unopened blood coolers will be rotated weekly. Opened coolers will be replaced as soon as possible
* Perform validations on credo coolers and temperature loggers
* Ensure attached paperwork is complete per process listed below
* Audit trail for units transfused by ALNW will be completed in Sunquest (SQ)
* Provide ALNW with any recall and lookback notifications on units given by ALNW
* Document any reported transfusion reactions in SQ and notify TSL Medical Director

Airlift Northwest will be responsible for the following processes;

* Train ALNW staff who will be using the Credo Cooler and administer blood
* Maintain annual competency requirements on ALNW staff
* Maintain and store the cooler at appropriate temperature
* Keep the contents of the cooler closed at all times until ready to transfuse
* Return cooler to HMC TSL when cooler has been opened
* Notify TSL when units have been transfused and provide relevant patient information and flight number information to maintain audit trail
* Follow up with any Recall and Lookback that may occur as a result of the units that have been transfused. ALNW Medical Director will be responsible for notifying patient as appropriate.
* Follow up with any transfusion reaction that may occur following transfusion with ALNW Medical Director

**Procedure:**

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| **Step** | **Action** | **Related Documents** |
| **Overview** | | |
| 1 | TSL prepares and delivers a Credo Cooler with 2 RBCs and 2 liquid plasma. *Five day plasma may be substituted due to inventory limitations.* | Table A |
| 2 | Airlift Northwest includes the Credo Cooler in their response based on ALNW policy and procedure. |  |
| 3 | Upon return to Airlift Northwest facility or patient delivery to HMC ED, TSL is notified to send a replacement Credo Cooler. |  |
| **Step** | **Action** | **Related Documents** |
| **Overview (continued)** | | |
| 4 | TSL assesses returned cooler inventory via a data logger for return to inventory or quarantine/discard. Transfused unit audit trails are recorded in LIS. | Credo Cooler Log |
| 5 | Cooler remains refrigerated at ALNW.   * Every 7 days or product has 2 days remaining before expiration; the Credo Cooler is exchanged for a new cooler. * Credo Cooler is validated for 7 days continuous refrigerated storage if unopened. * Credo Cooler is validated for 24 hours outside of refrigerated storage. |  |
| 6 | Credo Coolers removed from refrigerated storage are exchanged as soon as possible. |  |
| 7 | Issues related to ALNW will be directed to a TSL Lead or Manager. ALNW will provide a contact person to aid in problem resolution. |  |
| 8 | ALNW chart is on paper and is submitted to HMC ED upon arrival. |  |
| 9 | Transfusion Reactions occurring inflight will be communicated to TSL upon arrival at HMC. Investigation will be performed per current SOPs. | Transfusion Reaction Investigation |

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| **Credo Cooler Inventory Management** | | |
| 1 | Select and prepare blood components per SOP.   * All blood products must have different unit #s. Do not place products from same donor in one cooler. | Using the Credo Series 4 EMT Coolers |
| 2 | Prepare replacement cooler every 7 days **or**:   * Cooler that has been removed for patient transport must be replaced * Cooler that has been opened must be replaced * Cooler with five day plasma will be replaced 2 days prior to shortest dated product in cooler |
| 3 | Transport to ALNW site via   * 1st choice: ALNW Courier once a week during dayshift * 2nd choice: With ALNW team after delivering patient with Credo Cooler to HMC ED, if time allows.   + TSL requires 30 minutes to prepare Credo Cooler |  |
| 4 | Perform return. | Using the Credo Series 4 EMT Coolers |

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| **Processing Returned Blood Products** | | |
| 1 | Process returned RBCs and plasma per SOP | Using the Credo Series 4 EMT Coolers  SQ Blood Status Update  SQ Blood Location |
| 2 | Complete audit trail in SQ for transfused blood products:   * Admitted to HMC: current SOPs * **Not** Admitted to HMC: See Table B. Get flight # from ALNW personnel and document on Credo Cooler Log | SQ Order Entry  SQ Blood Order Processing |
| 3 | Complete Blood Order Processing:   * Process the TXM and/or TFFP order(s) per SOP   + If patient is not received at HMC or a sample cannot be drawn, the RBCs may be issued using the ER battery * Transfused units do not need to be moved back to the “H” location in order to allocate and issue in SQ BOP.   Perform Blood Product Issue:   * Issue Date/Time: written on card in TIME OUT or provided by ALNW * Issued to: ALNW * Issue Comments: none required   Complete paperwork:   * Send post Transfusion Record to HIM. * Send original transfusion record to HIM with patient identifier * Staple unit cards to Trauma/MTP paperwork and/or Credo Cooler Log.   *NOTE: ALNW has a separate transfusion record. ALNW will return all Transfusion Records to TSL.*   * Discard unit segments from the Blood Location Rack. | SQ Blood Order Processing |

**Table A: Credo Cooler Quantities**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Quantity** | **Product** | **ABO/Rh** |
| 2 | RBC | ONEG |
| 2 | Plasma | Low titer group A or group AB |

**Table B: Creating ALNW Patient Record in Sunquest when Patient not admitted to HMC**

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| **Creating ALNW Patient Record in Sunquest** | |
| **Step** | **Action:** |
| 1 | Log into Sunquest.   * Determine patient has not been admitted to HMC utilizing Blood Bank Inquiry. * Do not create a new patient until potential existing patients have been ruled out. |
| 2 | Perform Order Entry   * HID begins with **ALNW-** * Click **SEARCH;** * Click **CREATE;** Pop-up window - note a digit is added to the **ALNW-:** this is the HID number * Patient Demographics will auto fill:   + Last Name: **UNREGISTERED**   + First Name: **AIRLIFT**   + Middle Name: not used   + Date of Birth: 00/00/0000   + Gender: UNKNOWN * Billing information will auto fill:   + Account #: 0   + Event Type: OST = OS No Test/No Bill   + Event Status: Active   + Start Date: current date * **SAVE** * Using **ALNW Unit Card** or other source of transfusion information:   + Collection Date: Date from card   + Collection Time: Time from card or “U” (unknown)   + Received Date/Time: written on card in TIME OUT or provided by ALNW * Diagnosis: NDX * Battery(ies):   + RBCs: **ER**   + Plasma: **TFFP** * Attach Accession sticker to back of appropriate Unit Card(s) and/or paperwork * Staple Unit Card to original and post Transfusion Records. * Store in Trauma Notebook. * Update the Blood Administrative Data Entry with ALNW flight #, date and tech ID |

**References:**

Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, Current Edition. American Association of Blood Banks. AABB Press, Bethesda, MD.