## TITLE: Signing in units of Blood and Blood Products

PRINCIPLE

Blood should never be left unnecessarily at room temperature. When issued for transfusion, blood should not be left unnecessarily at room temperature. Delayed deliveries to the floor, delayed arrival of equipment or infusion are all undesirable. If blood is stored in surgical or obstetrical suites, refrigerators that meet American Association of Blood Bank's specifications must be used. Donor blood must never be stored in unmonitored refrigerators. Platelets and cryoprecipitate are the exceptions to this and must be kept only at room temperature (20-24°C). Colder storage of platelets will result in significantly less platelet viability. Warmer storage of platelets will result in and increased bacterial risk.

### PERSONNEL

Medical Technologists

### STEPWISE PROCEDURE

1. Blood may be signed back into the Blood Bank if it has been stored in the monitored refrigerator in surgery or if it has not been allowed to warm above 10°C as indicated by the Hemotemp II label. FFP may be signed in if it has been out of the blood bank for less than 30 minutes or stored in a monitored refrigerator (such as the operating room) or cooler. Platelets and cryoprecipitate may be returned if they have been kept at room temperature (20-24°C). Blood products may arrive either by the Translogic tube system or be hand delivered.
2. Check the Hemo-Temp label on red blood cells. Label should indicate a temperature below 10C with a the flower showing a blue color. If unit is acceptable, remove Hemo-Temp label. Blood is then returned to the refrigerator for reissue.
3. If blood has warmed above 10°C, the technologist should notify the supervisor explaining the circumstances responsible and quarantine the unit.
4. The person accepting the returned blood will return the product via Soft Bank Inventory, Product Order Services, Return.
5. Quarantined units are placed in the quarantine section of the Blood Bank refrigerator.
6. These units are disposed of in accordance with hospital policy

652-11A-1, Laboratory Biosafety Procedures for Level 2 Clinical Laboratory.

### INTERPRETATION

Blood and Blood Products which have been returned to the Blood Bank shall not be reissued unless the following conditions have been observed:

1. The container closure has not been disturbed.
2. The blood has not been allowed to warm above 10°C or to cool below 1°C during

storage or transportation. Platelets and cryo have not been allowed to warm above 24°C or to cool below 20°C. (Platelets can be left unagitated for up to 24 hours).

1. FFP must be returned within 30 minutes of issue to be acceptable for reissue (Unless stored in a monitored refrigerator as in the operating room or cooler).
2. The records indicate that the blood has been reissued, and that it has been

inspected prior to reissue.

1. Any blood product that does not meet the above requirements should be quarantined and subsequently discarded.

### REFERENCE

Biosynergy, Inc.

AABB Technical Manual,16th Edition, 2008.

Standards for blood Banks & Transfusion Service 25th Edition, 2008.

S:P&P/BloodBank/4840-BB-401ch11/04/05