**Purpose**

This policy describes the methods and procedures used by Harborview Medical Center Transfusion Service to pack blood products for shipment.

**Policy**

All blood products are transported in shipping containers as outlined below.

* Shipping containers are supplied by the blood supplier.
* Validation of shipping containers for maximum transport time is performed by the blood supplier.

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| **Refrigerated Products:** |
| **Container Contents:** | **Container Size**  |
| **Small** | **Medium** | **Large** |
| Red Blood Cells (RBC) or Thawed Plasma (TP) | 1-12 | 5-18 | 5-25 |
|  Coolant | 5 lbs. wet iceminimum | 10 lbs wet ice minimum | 10 lbs wet ice minimum |
|  | **Maximum Transport Time** |
| **15 hours** | **20 hours** | **20 hours** |
| **Room Temperature Products:** |
| **Container Contents:** | **Endurotherm Container** |
| * Platelets
* Thawed Cryoprecipitate
* Granulocytes
 | Place between two temperature stabilizers.1-Full\* |
| * Temperature Stabilizer (bubble wrapped)
* Store in the platelet incubator.
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|  | Maximum Transport Time |
| **20 hours** |

\*Full allows room to fold the liner over the components and temperature stabilizer plus close the lid without resistance.

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| **Frozen Blood Products:** |
| **Container Contents:** | **Container Size** |
| **Small** | **Medium** | **Large** |
| * Frozen Plasma

 * Frozen Cryoprecipitate
* Dry Ice
 | 6 | 12 | 22 |
| 18 | 20 | 50 |
| 5 lbs | 10 lbs | 10 lbs |
| **Maximum Transport Time = 21 hours*** ***Note:*** *Dry Ice must still be present and components frozen*

*upon receipt*  |

**References**

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

PSBC Validation of Shipping Containers