**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 appropriate notebook.   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.