

Document Code:	DPOTMH-E-52-P01-S04	
Effective Date:	07-31-2021	
Document Type:	Standard Operating Procedure	
Page Number:	1 of 5	
Department/Section:	Blood Bank Section	
Document Title:	BLOOD STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION	

PURPOSE:

To provide guidelines on the proper blood storage and distribution to maintain component function and viability of blood for transfusion and to keep blood and blood products safe and to avoid bacterial contamination.

SCOPE:

Applies to all Blood Bank Section Staff of Laboratory Department of Dr. Pablo O. Torre Memorial Hospital (DPOTMH)

PERSON RESPONSIBLE:

Medical Technologists

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- 1 Blood units shall be stored only in the temperature controlled blood refrigerators and NOT in ward or domestic refrigerators.
- 2 Blood units to be transported from blood centers shall be placed in a transport box with coolant during transportation.
- 3 Blood units can be stored until the given expiry date.
 - * Whole blood and Packed RBC 35 days from date of extraction
 - * Platelet concentrate 5 days from date of extraction
 - * Fresh Frozen Plasma 1 year from date of extraction
- 4 Blood units must not be out of the designated temperature storage areas for more than 30 minutes. Otherwise, it will be considered as wastage.



Document Code:	DPOTMH-E-52-P01-S04
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Document Type:	Standard Operating Procedure
Page Number:	2 of 5
Department/Section:	Blood Bank Section
Document Title:	BLOOD STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION

- 5 Stored units must be arranged by:
 - 5.1 Blood type
 - 5.2 Type of component
 - 5.3 Crossmatched units
 - 5.4 Available / Uncrossmatched units
- 6 Blood bank staff shall monitor and record every shift the temperature of the blood bank refrigerator and plasma freezer on the temperature log sheet provided.

PROCEDURE:

- 1. Upon receiving the blood unit/s, check for the proper transfer of blood from the blood center to the blood bank.
- After checking the blood unit/s, immediately store the blood in the blood bank refrigerator for whole blood and packed RBC, in room temperature for platelet concentrate and in the plasma freezer for fresh frozen plasma.

Storage Temperature for the Different Blood Products

Blood and Blood Products	Storage Temperature	
Whole blood and red cells	2°C to 8°C	
Platelets	+20°C to +24°C with continuous agitation	
Fresh frozen plasma	-20°C or lower	

Whole blood and red cells must always be stored at a temperature between 2°C to 8°C



Document Code:	DPOTMH-E-52-P01-S04	
Effective Date:	07-31-2022	
Document Type:	Standard Operating Procedure	
Page Number:	3 of 5	
Department/Section:	Blood Bank Section	
Document Title:	BLOOD STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION	

Storage Temperature for Red Cells

Condition	Temperature Range	Storage Time
Transport of pre-processed blood	+20°C to +24°C	Less than 6 hours
Storage of pre-processed or processed blood	2°C to 8°C	Approximately 35 days
Transport of processed blood	2°C to 8°C	Less than 24 hours

Fresh frozen plasma (FFP) is plasma that has been separated from a unit of whole blood within 6 to 8 hours of collection, and has been rapidly frozen and maintained at all times at a temperature of -20°C or lower.

Storage Time according to Temperature for Fresh Frozen Plasma

Storage Temperature	Maximum Storage Time
-65°C or below	7 years
-40°C to -64°C	24 months
-30°C to -39°C	12 months
-25°C to -29°C	6 months
-20°C to -24°C	3 months



Document Code:	DPOTMH-E-52-P01-S04	
Effective Date:	07-31-2022	
Document Type:	Standard Operating Procedure	
Page Number:	4 of 5	
Department/Section:	Blood Bank Section	
Document Title:	BLOOD STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION	

Platelet concentrates should be stored at a temperature of between +20°C to +24°C with continuous agitation. Storage conditions and expiry dates should also be strictly adhered to in order to prevent septic shock for the recipient.

Length of Time Permitted for the Storage of Platelet Concentrates within the Temperature Range +20°C to +24°C

Process	Maximum Storage Time
Storage	5 days
Transport	24 hours
After issue, before transfusion	30 minutes
Open system and / or pooled	4 hours



Document Code:	DPOTMH-E-52-P01-S04	
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Page Number:	5 of 5	
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Document Type:	Work Instruction
Page Number:	1 of 2
Department/Section:	Blood Bank Section
Document Title:	BLOOD STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION

KEY TASK	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
1. Checks for the proper transfer of blood from the blood center to the blood bank.	
2. Stores immediately the blood in the blood bank refrigerator after checking the unit for whole blood and packed RBC, in room temperature for platelet concentrate and in the plasma freezer for fresh frozen plasma.	Medical Technologist



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Effective Date:	07-31-2022	
Document Type:	Flowchart	
Page Number:	1 of 2	
Department/Section:	Blood Bank Section	
Document Title:	BLOOD STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION	

FLOWCHART



Checks for the proper transfer of blood from the blood center to the blood bank

Stores immediately the blood in the blood bank refrigerator after checking the unit for whole blood and packed RBC, in room temperature for platelet concentrate and in the plasma freezer for fresh frozen plasma





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Page Number:	2 of 5
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Page Number:	3 of 5
Department/Section:	Blood Bank Section
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Document Type:	Standard Operating Procedure	
Page Number:	4 of 5	
Department/Section:	Blood Bank Section	
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Page Number:	1 of 2	
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