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Implementation: To be determined by each Service

Change Notification UK National Blood Services No. 2 - 2012

Thawing temperature of fresh-frozen plasma (FFP), cryoprecipitate, cryoprecipitate-depleted plasma and methylene blue (MB)-treated FFP and cryoprecipitate

Applies to the Guidelines for the Blood Transfusion Services in the United Kingdom 7th Edition 2005

The temperature at which frozen plasma components should be thawed has been changed from 37°C to 33-37°C in view of the capability of devices currently used within hospitals to thaw plasma. A requirement to use a validated procedure as well as a visual inspection of the thawed unit has also been added.

In the following sections of Chapter 8 of the guidelines please delete and replace the text as stated below: Section 8.13, 8.14, 8.16, 8.15, 8.17, 8.24, 8.25 and 8.30

Please delete:

The component should be thawed at 37°C in a waterbath or other equipment designed for the purpose, within a vacuum sealed overwrap bag. Protocols must be in place to ensure that the equipment is cleaned daily and maintained to minimize the risk of bacterial contamination.

Replace with:

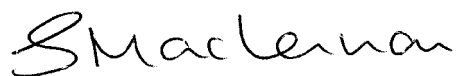
- The component should be thawed in a waterbath or other equipment designed for the purpose, within a vacuum sealed overwrap bag according to a validated procedure. The optimal temperature at which the component should be thawed is 37 °C; temperatures between 33 - 37 °C are acceptable. Protocols must be in place to ensure that the equipment is cleaned daily and maintained to minimize the risk of bacterial contamination. After thawing, the content should be inspected to ensure that no insoluble cryoprecipitate is visible and that the container is intact.

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Further information

The supporting paper, JPAC 11-58 Thawing temperature of FFP, cryoprecipitate, cryodepleted plasma and MB-treated FFP, leading to this Change Notification can be found in the Document Library/Supporting Papers of the JPAC website:

<http://www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk/Index.aspx?Publication=DL&Section=12&pageid=7528>



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