Specific gravity of blood components


The specific gravity of blood components used to calculate component volume from weight has been changed and therefore the last bullet point under ‘component weight:volume’ is amended to the following, and two additional bullet points added after it as follows:

6.3 Component and process monitoring tests

6.3.3 Component weight:volume

- For platelets suspended in plasma and plasma components, volume is calculated by weighing the pack, deducting the weight of the pack assembly and dividing the resulting weight by the nominal specific gravity of 1.03.

- For platelets suspended in platelet additive solution and plasma, volume is calculated by weighing the pack, deducting the weight of the pack assembly and dividing the resulting weight by the nominal specific gravity of 1.02.

- For platelets suspended in platelet additive solution, volume is calculated by weighing the pack, deducting the weight of the pack assembly and dividing the resulting weight by the nominal specific gravity of 1.01.

Dr Sheila MacLennan
Professional Director - Joint UKBTS Professional Advisory Committee
Direct Dial: (0113) 820 8638  sheila.maclennan@nhsbt.nhs.uk