

# Shipment of Blood and Blood Components to External Sites

Effective Date:

Approved by:

## Items required for packing whole blood, red cells or platelets:



### Ice Packs

Storage requirements:  
-11 ± 3C for at least 24 hours  
*(if stored at -18C add additional protection between blood and pack)*

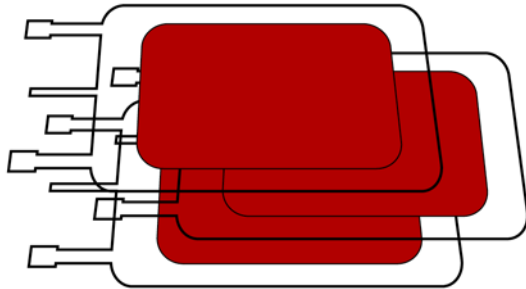


### Gel Packs

Storage requirements:  
**RBC:** 4 ± 2C for at least 24 hours  
**Platelets:** 22 ± 2C for at least 24 hours



2 -Corrugated Boards



Units of Blood or  
Platelets



Crumpled Clean Paper

These items are for use with an approved shipping container: Usually a Styrofoam container within an outer cardboard box, secured by a belt and buckle which can be sealed.

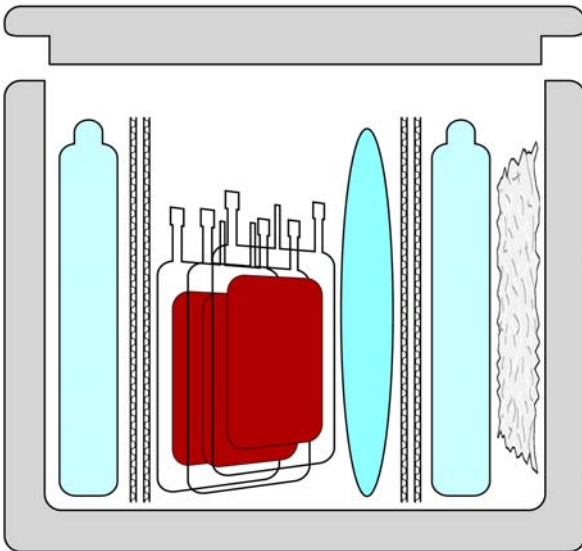


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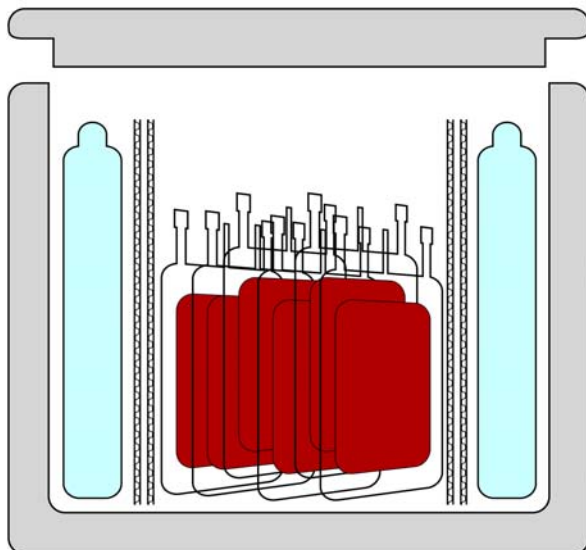
Approved by:

## Shipping in ambient temperatures above +15C



**1 – 2 units Whole Blood**  
**1 – 4 units Red Cells**

- 2 Ice packs – upright – at each end
- Gel Pack between units and 2 corrugated boards
- Units flat or upright
- Minimize dead air space with crumpled clean



**≥ 3 units Whole Blood**  
**≥ 5 units Red Cells**

- 2 ice packs – upright – at each end
- Corrugated boards between ice pack and units
- Units flat or upright
- Minimize dead air space with crumpled clean

The graphics do not depict the plastic bag in which the blood products would be placed

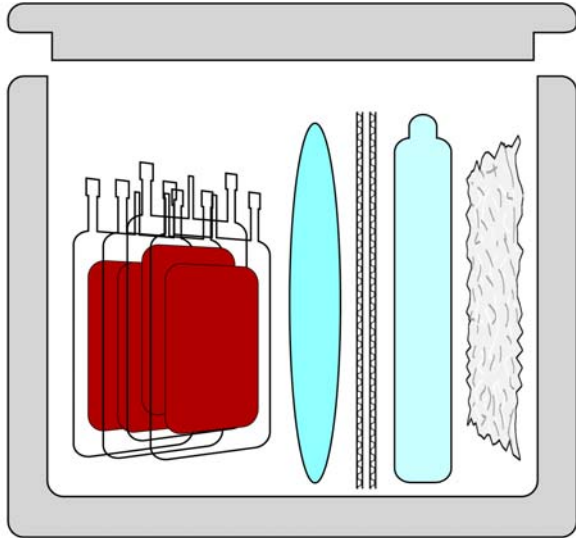


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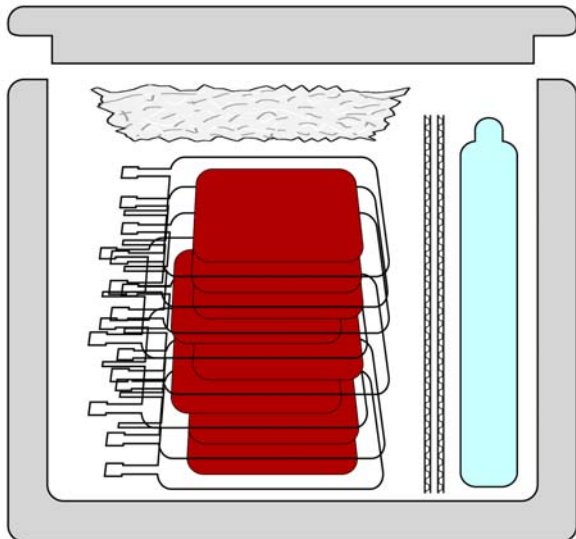
Approved by:

## Shipping in ambient temperatures above 0C and +15C



**1 – 2 units Whole Blood**  
**1 – 4 units Red Cells**

- Ice pack at one end – upright
- Gel pack between corrugated boards and units
- Units upright or flat
- Minimize dead air space with crumpled clean paper



**≥ 3 units Whole Blood**  
**≥ 5 units Red Cells**

- Ice pack at one end – upright
- Corrugated boards between ice pack and units
- Units upright or flat
- Minimize dead air space with crumpled clean paper

The graphics do not depict the plastic bag in which the blood products would be placed

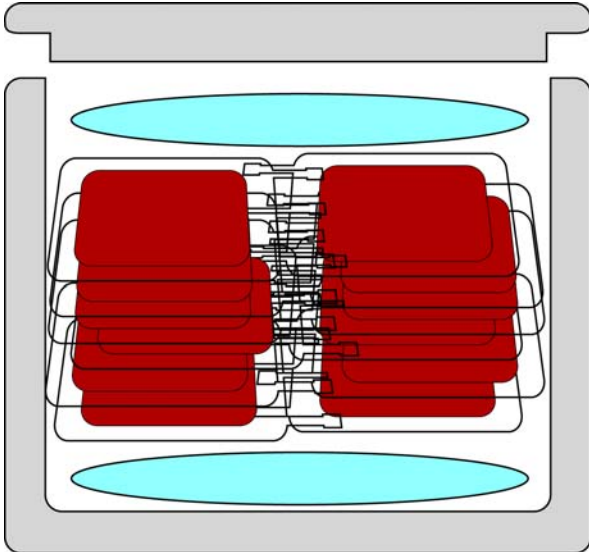


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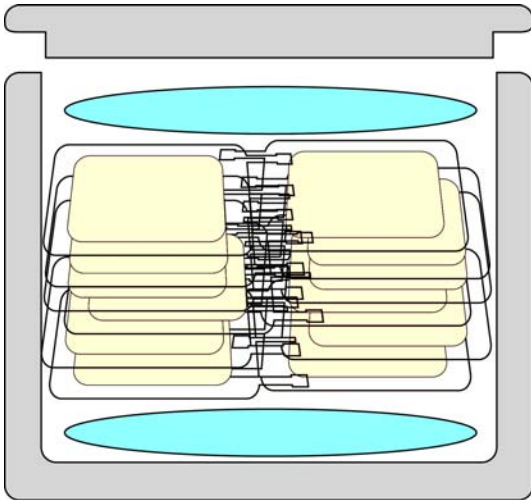
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## Shipping in ambient temperatures below 0C



- Use 2 cold gel packs
- One above and one below units
- Units packed flat in one or two columns
- Minimize dead air space with crumpled clean paper

## Shipping Platelets:



- Use 2 room temperature gel packs
- One above and one below units
- Units packed flat in one or two columns
- Minimize dead air space with crumpled clean paper

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