

BCSH TRANSFUSION TASK FORCE

ADDENDUM

British Committee for Standards in Haematology: Guidelines for the use of fresh-frozen plasma, cryoprecipitate and cryosupernatant, 2004 (Brit J Haematol 2004,126,11-28)

Section 6.2 of this Guideline (“Storage after thawing”) currently states that “Thawed plasma and cryosupernatant should be kept at 4°C if there is any delay in transfusion”. There is no mention of post-thaw storage of cryoprecipitate which, of course, should be at ambient temperature to prevent re-precipitation.

For clarification, the first sentence of Section 6.2 has now been amended to read:

6.2 Storage after thawing

Thawed plasma and cryosupernatant should be kept at 4°C if there is any delay in transfusion, whereas cryoprecipitate should be kept at ambient temperature to avoid re-precipitation.

The Recommendation has been amended to read:

Recommendation

After thawing, and when FVIII replacement is not required, FFP and cryosupernatant may be stored at 4°C in an approved blood storage refrigerator before administration to the patient so long as the infusion is completed within 24 h of thawing. If delay in transfusing cryoprecipitate is unavoidable, the component should be stored at ambient temperature and used within 4 h (grade B recommendation, level III evidence).

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Approved by Transfusion Task Force on 17/10/07