



FDA Draft Guidance on Bacterial Detection, 2016

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Draft 2: Issued March 2016

- Follows public comment to original draft of December 2014
- Includes licensure of pathogen reduction technology
- Issued after licensure of bags approved for 7 day platelets
- Will be in effect by 12 months after final document is released



Changes for Transfusion Services

When final guidance released:

- Use pathogen reduced platelets (apheresis only)
- Do a secondary test on day of transfusion for day 4 or 5 platelets
 - Must be FDA-approved rapid test (good for 24 hours)
 - Or can re-culture
 - Includes pooled platelets not previously tested
 - No rapid test available for single whole-blood derived units



Rapid Tests Available

Verax Platelet PGD (Fenwal)



BacTx (Immunetics)



Seven Day Platelets

To extend shelf life to 7 days:

- Must be registered with FDA
- Must use approved rapid test device within 24 hours of transfusion
- Must change label



Seven Day Platelets -- Cautions

- Pathogen reduction systems not yet licensed for seven day storage
- Culture-based testing not licensed as “safety measure” – cannot be used for extension of shelf life
- Acrodose (pre-pooled platelets) not yet approved for 7 day storage
- Single units of whole blood derived platelets cannot be extended




