

To: Transfusion Services Managers
From: Hospital Relations
Date: July 23, 2020
Re: Convalescent Plasma from Cryo Destined FFP

Background

The latest surge in COVID-19 cases in north central Texas has presented Carter BloodCare with a challenge of meeting increased demand for COVID-19 convalescent plasma. To better meet the current demand of convalescent plasma, Carter BloodCare is qualifying donors that have donated whole blood and tested positive for Sars-Cov-2 antibodies. Some of these units may look different when they arrive at your facility. Plasma that is originally intended to be made into cryoprecipitate from whole blood is prepared and frozen with attached tubing and an empty bag. Since these units are frozen before the results of the antibody testing is known and the donor is qualified, the bag and tubing will still be attached to the unit. If the unit qualifies as convalescent plasma, the additional bag and tubing cannot be removed until after thawing.

Impact to Client

- Clients may receive convalescent plasma units that were originally intended to be made into cryoprecipitate and will therefore have extra tubing and bag attached to the unit
- Clients may manually or heat seal to remove the extra bag and tubing after thawing and before dispensing the unit to be transfused
- Clients may leave the bag and tubing attached to the unit upon thawing and dispense, but should notify the staff transfusing the unit of the difference in appearance

An example is below for your reference.

