

December 6, 2021 Cold Stored Platelet (CSP) Q&A 10:30 a.m.

Q: If these units are issued under an MTP and are received back into the blood bank outside of the acceptable temperatures, must these products be discarded?

A: Yes, this product should be treated just like any other product that is issued, returned and received back in the blood bank outside of acceptable temperatures.

Q: Can you apply temperature stickers to these products?

A: Unsure, you would need to confirm with the manufacturer of the temperature indicator.

Q: What is the half-life of cold-stored platelets?

A: If you are referring to the post-transfusion life span, I do not believe there is any data that provides an exact timeline that cold-stored platelets last in the circulation vs. room temperature platelets. However, historical studies have shown that the post transfusion counts were quite a bit lower in comparison to room temperature platelets. Hence, why the indication to transfuse these products is for actively bleeding patients (primarily), and also when no other platelet is available.

Q: Are the product codes different? We have encountered errors when testing the product codes at time of issue.

A: Yes, cold stored platelets have unique ISBT product codes. We have not received notification from other hospitals that utilize the same LIS of these issues. We recommend checking with your IT team.

Q: Can these products just lay in the refrigerator or are there particular instructions similar to room temperature platelets?

A: Yes, CSPs can lay on the shelf in the refrigerator. CSPs are metabolically not as active as room temperature, thus, the concerns regarding permeability are not the same as associated with room temperature platelets. These products should be stored similar to other cold stored products.

Q: How do I know if my facility was automatically enrolled in the cold stored program?

A: You would have received at a minimum 3 notifications via email or phone regarding your enrollment. If you historically transfuse $\leq 30\%$ of the platelets you receive on a monthly basis, then you would be automatically enrolled. You can calculate platelet usage by reviewing the monthly ship profile provided to your facility.

Q: What is the go-live date to begin distributing CSPs?

A: We are tentatively planning for the week of January 17th. We typically see a decrease in donations in the first two weeks of January. We will also be respectful to any changes in resources based on the newly identified COVID variant.

While CSPs are to be used primarily in actively bleeding situations, please make sure and include and when no other platelet is available in your policy. We want to ensure that we can meet patient needs in multiple situations.