



Blood Refrigerator — Cold-Chain and Alarm Log

2 to 6 °C, continuously, with an alarm that someone answers. The daily log and the excursion procedure

Location · fridge ID · month · responsible person · alarm set at 2 °C and 6 °C ☐ · last calibration

Date	AM temp	PM temp	Min / max	In range 2–6 ☐	Alarm test (weekly) ☐	Cleaned ☐	Initials	Excursion? action
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Excursion — temperature outside 2–6 °C

1. Do not issue any unit. Note the time, temperature and duration.
2. Check: door closed, power, alarm; move units to a validated cold box or another fridge if the fault cannot be fixed within 30 minutes.
3. Inform the laboratory lead. Units above 10 °C for more than 30 minutes, or any unit that has been out of a controlled environment for over 30 minutes, are discarded — record the numbers.
4. Record the event and the units affected; incident form; service the fridge before returning to use.

Storage rules

- Red cells 2–6 °C up to 35–42 days per anticoagulant; never frozen; never in a domestic fridge with food or samples.
- Platelets 20–24 °C with continuous agitation, 5 days — never in the fridge.
- Fresh frozen plasma ≤ –25 °C; thawed in a water bath at 37 °C and used within 24 h if kept at 2–6 °C.
- Units issued to a ward and not transfused within 30 minutes are returned; the ward does not store blood unless it has a validated blood fridge with this log.

Adapted from WHO, Manual on the management, maintenance and use of blood cold chain equipment (2005) and WHO transfusion guidelines.

ASF standards: Hospital Standard 4 — blood storage and cold chain (means of verification: log, alarm tests)