13 FRESH BLOOD COMPONENTS

13.4 FRESH FROZEN PLASMA (FFP)

DESCRIPTION

- FFP is separated from whole blood and frozen within 18 hours of collection. FFP contains all coagulation factors including Factor VIIIc >0.7 IU/mL.
- Volume 150-300mL.
- Paediatric FFP volume 75-150mL.

INDICATIONS

- Reverse warfarin in presence of life-threatening bleeding. Use in addition to vitamin-K-dependent concentrates.
- TTP
- Bleeding or abnormal coagulation in:
  - Acute DIC.
  - Massive transfusion or cardiac bypass.
  - Liver disease.
  - Coagulation inhibitor deficiencies.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Not generally considered appropriate:

- When coagulopathy can be corrected more effectively with specific therapy such as Vitamin K, cryoprecipitate, Factor VIII or other specific factor concentrate.
- For volume replacement when other volume expanders such as 0.9% saline, Albumex 4%, etc can be used.
- For plasma exchange procedures.

SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE

- 1 year at below –25°C in a Blood bank monitored freezer.
- Thawed at below 41°C in a monitored Blood Bank thawing bath for immediate infusion.
- Transfuse immediately after thawing and complete within 4 hours.
ORDERING
- Telephone order to Blood Bank or by completed Transfusion Request Form.
- ABO compatibility routinely required.
- **PMH Out-of-hours** staff must call the Hospital Coordinator on page 8840 and complete a Transfusion request form. Group AB units will be provided, which are compatible with all patient ABO groups.

DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION
Dose depends on clinical situation. The suggested therapeutic dose is 10-15mL/kg.

- Transfusion may be as fast as tolerated and FFP is usually infused over 30-60 minutes
- FFP may be administered by Gravity or Plum A+ Pump using an approved blood administration set with 170-200 micron filter designed to remove large aggregates formed during storage. Sets should be used and primed according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- The PLUM A+ line B or secondary infusion line contains a 200 micron filter which is appropriate for use with fresh blood products.
- For neonates and infants, special paediatric giving sets or screen filters for administration by syringe may be used provided they incorporate a 170-200 micron filter.
- As for all fresh blood products - Transfusion must be COMPLETE within 4 hours.

PATIENT MONITORING
Take observations as for all blood products
- Baseline TPR and BP
- TP at 15 minutes then hourly until completion.
- TPR and BP on completion.

DOCUMENTATION
A record should be kept in the patient's history of the following
- The date of infusion
- Patients observations and general condition during the infusion
- Amount given
- The bag sticker should be placed on the Transfusion Medicine Record sheet PMH MR616/ KEMH MR735) and the start and stop times and checking signatures should be completed in the relevant boxes.

FOR FULL INFORMATION ON ADMINISTRATION, DOCUMENTATION AND MONITORING PLEASE SEE SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 11