Activation

MTP is activated by calling the Blood Bank (x66227). Anyone may call to trigger the MTP, on the order of the physician.

MTP Composition

During MTP, blood products are dispensed in coolers that have been validated to maintain them at their proper storage temperature for up to 4 hours. Each MTP cooler contains 6 units of packed red blood cells (pRBCs), 6 plasma, and 1 platelet collected by apheresis. For each box, the Blood Bank will also offer a pooled unit of cryoprecipitate to the clinical team, starting at the second box.

Type-Selection of Blood Products

At the beginning of the MTP resuscitation, Group O (universal) pRBCs will be issued. Female patients of child-bearing potential (55 and younger) will receive Group O Rh negative pRBCs initially; all other patients will receive Group O Rh positive pRBCs.

Once the patient’s blood type has been determined (and verified by second type, if necessary), the Blood Bank will issue pRBCs that are either ABO-compatible or ABO-identical to the patient. Female patients of child-bearing potential may be switched to Rh positive pRBCs, based on their blood type determination and inventory limitations.

Group A Plasma is issued initially in the MTP. Once the patient’s blood type has been determined, they can be switched to ABO-compatible plasma. However, if ABO-incompatible plasma is more rapidly available, this will be issued, preferentially, as the risks of waiting to thaw compatible plasma outweighs the risk of transfusing incompatible plasma in this clinical scenario.

Storage of MTP Blood Products

MTP coolers have been validated to maintain blood products at their proper storage temperature for up to 4 hours. A timer is placed on the coolers to signal the users when the 4 hour mark is approaching. Coolers should not be opened unless blood is being taken from them; opening them will cause the inside to warm towards ambient temperature.