DAT48/11 – Capacity and Transportation Time Limits for Transport Containers

NHS
Blood and Transplant
Copy No:
Effective date: 22/11/2021

Note

Transportation of Blood Components

Container capacities include up to six neo natal units as one adult unit for all component types.

Fill any excess air space between PCMs and lid and around units with paper towel/bubble wrap or paper towel/bubble wrap cushions to ensure no movement of components during transportation.

Transportation of Blood Donations

Va-Q-Tec transport containers MUST only be used for transporting blood donations from stock holding units to manufacturing centres when a bulk movement vehicle unexpectedly becomes unavailable.

Whole blood donations must be laid flat with the satellite bags and filters underneath. Units can overlap in order to fit into the containers.

Fill any excess air space between PCMs and lid and around units with paper towel/bubble wrap or paper towel/bubble wrap cushions to ensure no movement of donations during transportation.

Extreme Weather Protocol

At those times when external temperatures FALL BELOW -5°C or RISE ABOVE +35°C only, the EXTREME WEATHER PROTOCOL listed on this datasheet MUST be instigated for transportation of all blood components.
The protocol covers external temperatures down to -10°C or up to +40°C.

VA-Q-TEC LONG JOURNEY TRANSPORT CONTAINERS

Component Type	Maximum Capacity (Units)	Maximum Time Units out of Controlled Storage in Container (Hours)	Temperature Stabilisation Material Type	Configuration of Temperature Stabilisation Material	External Temperature
Red Blood Cells	12	9	Blue (+4°C +/-2°C)	1 Bottom 2 Opposite Sides 1 Top	-5°C to +35°C
Platelets	15	8	Green (+22°C +/-2°C)		
Clinical Buffy Coats	10				
Granulocytes	2				

VA-Q-TEC SMALL SHORT JOURNEY TRANSPORT CONTAINERS

Component Type	Maximum Capacity (Units)	Maximum Time Units out of Controlled Storage in Container (Hours)	Temperature Stabilisation Material Type	Configuration of Temperature Stabilisation Material	External Temperature
Red Blood Cells	6	5.5	Blue (+4°C +/-2°C)	2 bottom 2 top Side by side	-5°C to +35°C
Platelets		7	Green (+22°C +/-2°C)		
Adult FFP	4	11	Dry Ice	2 x 500g bags Top 1 x 500g bag Bottom	
Low Volume Frozen Components	6				

VA-Q-TEC MEDIUM SHORT JOURNEY TRANSPORT CONTAINERS

Component Type	Maximum Capacity (Units)	Maximum Time Units out of Controlled Storage in Container (Hours)	Temperature Stabilisation Material Type	Configuration of Temperature Stabilisation Material	External Temperature
Red Blood Cells	15	3	Blue (+4°C +/-2°C)	2 bottom 2 top Side by side	0°C to +30°C
Platelets		5	Green (+22°C +/-2°C)		
FFP and Low Volume Frozen Components	10	9.5	Dry ice	2 x 500g bags Top 1 x 500g bag Bottom	-5°C to +35°C

EXTREME WEATHER PROTOCOL (-10°c to +40°C)

This protocol should only be instigated if external temperatures are below -5°C and above +35°C

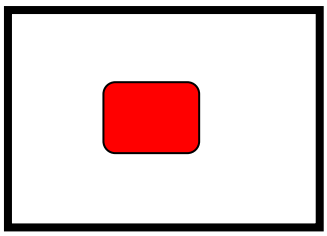
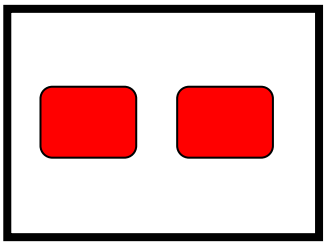
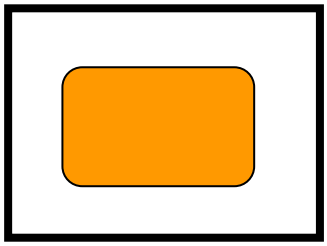
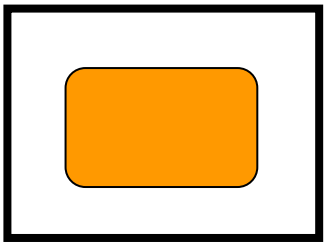
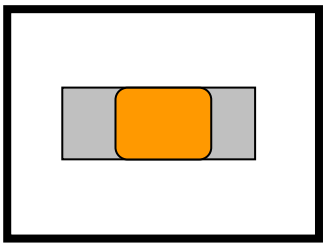
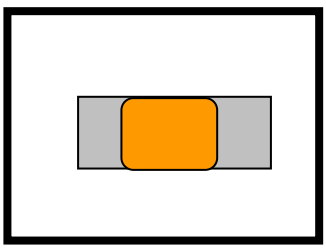
VA-Q-TEC LONG JOURNEY TRANSPORT CONTAINERS

Component Type	Maximum Capacity (Units)	Maximum Time Units out of Controlled Storage in Container (Hours)	Temperature Stabilisation Material Type	Configuration of Temperature Stabilisation Material	External Temperature
Red Blood Cells	10*	9	Blue (+4°C +/-2°C)	1 Bottom 2 Opposite Sides 1 Top	-10°C to +40°C
Platelets	15	8	Green (+22°C +/-2°C)		
Note *For the Extreme Weather Protocol only, maximum capacity is 10 units of Red Blood Cells					

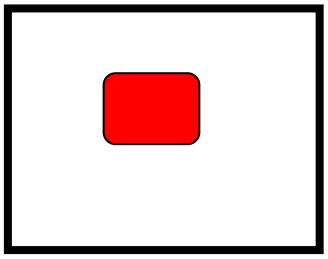
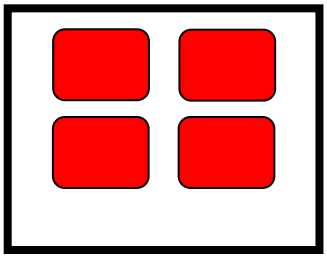
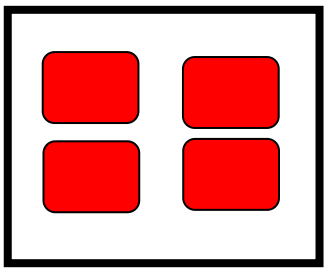
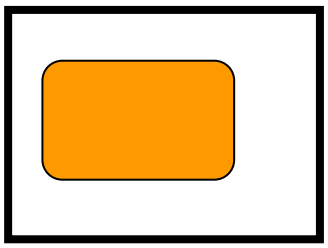
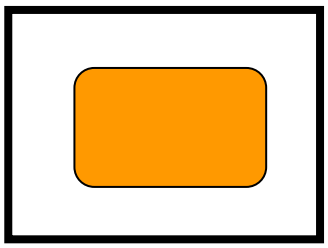
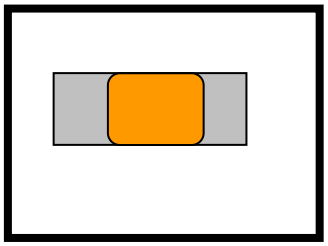
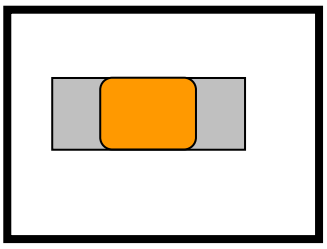
VA-Q-TEC MEDIUM SHORT JOURNEY TRANSPORT CONTAINERS

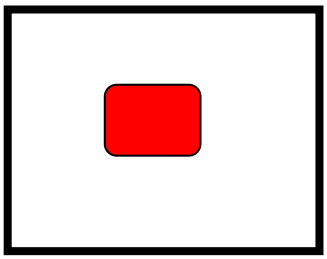
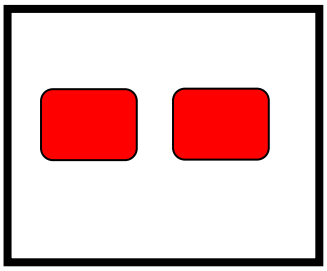
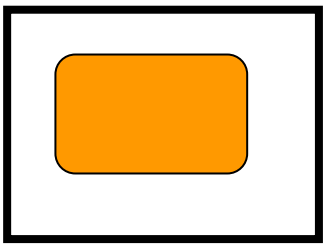
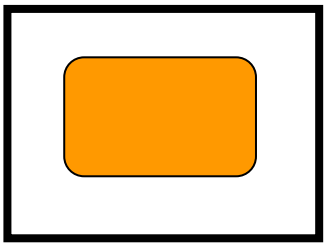
Component Type	Maximum Capacity (Units)	Maximum Time Units out of Controlled Storage in Container (Hours)	Temperature Stabilisation Material Type	Configuration of Temperature Stabilisation Material	External Temperature
Frozen Components	10	10	Dry Ice	2 x 500g bags Top **2 x 500g bag Bottom	-10°C to +40°C
Note **For the Extreme Weather Protocol only, two 500g of dry ice must be placed at the bottom of the container					

PACKING CONFIGURATIONS

Packing Configuration Examples for **SMALL SHORT** journey transport containers (Minimum and Maximum load)	
1 unit Red Blood Cells – Top View of Container  **Ports Folded** **1 stack x 1 unit**	**6 units Red Blood Cells – Top View of Container**  **Ports Folded** **2 stacks x 3 units**
1 unit Platelets - Top View of Container  **Laid flat** **1 stack x 1 unit**	**6 units Platelets – Top View of Container**  **Laid flat** **1 stack x 6 units**
1 unit FFP – Top View of Container  **Laid flat** **1 stack x 1 unit**	**4 units FFP – Top View of Container**  **Laid flat** **1 stack x 4 units**

Packing Configuration Examples for MEDIUM SHORT journey transport containers (Minimum and Maximum load)

1 and 7 units Red Blood Cells – Top View of Container  **Ports Folded** **1 stack x 1 unit, and**  **3 stacks x 2 units** **1 stack x 1 unit**	**15 units Red Blood Cells – Top View of Container**  **Ports Folded** **3 stacks x 4 units** **1 stack x 3 units**
1 unit Platelets – Top View of Container  **Laid Flat** **1 stack x 1 units**	**15 units Platelets – Top View of Container**  **Laid Flat** **1 stack x 15 units**
1 unit FFP Top View of Container  **Laid Flat** **1 stack x 1 unit**	**10 units FFP – Top View of Container**  **Laid Flat** **1 stack x 10 units**

Packing Configuration Examples for LONG JOURNEY TRANSPORT CONTAINERS (Minimum and Maximum load)	
1 unit Red Blood Cells – Top View of Container  **Ports Folded** **1 stack x 1 unit**	**12 units Red Blood Cells – Top View of Container**  **Ports Folded** **2 stacks x 6 units**
1 unit Platelets – Top View of Container  **Laid Flat** **1 stack x 1 unit**	**15 units Platelets – Top View of Container**  **Laid Flat** **1 stack x 15 units**

Diagrams are for illustration purposes only and are not to scale

TRANSPORTATION OF BLOOD DONATIONS

VA-Q-TEC LONG JOURNEY TRANSPORT CONTAINERS

Donation Type	Maximum Capacity (Donations)	Maximum Time Units out of Controlled Storage in Container (Hours)	Temperature Stabilisation Material Type	Configuration of Temperature Stabilisation Material	External Temperature
CD Platelets One Donation (2 split packs)	7	8	Green (+22°C +/-2°C)	1 Bottom 2 Opposite Sides 1 Top	-5°C to +35°C
Donated Plasma					
Whole Blood Donation	4				

VA-Q-TEC SMALL SHORT JOURNEY TRANSPORT CONTAINERS

Donation Type	Maximum Capacity (Donations)	Maximum Time Units out of Controlled Storage in Container (Hours)	Temperature Stabilisation Material Type	Configuration of Temperature Stabilisation Material	External Temperature
CD Platelets One Donation (2 split packs)	3	7	Green (+22°C +/-2°C)	2 Bottom 2 Top Side by Side	-5°C to +35°C
Donated Plasma					
Whole Blood Donation		5			

VA-Q-TEC MEDIUM SHORT JOURNEY TRANSPORT CONTAINERS

Donation Type	Maximum Capacity (Donations)	Maximum Time Units out of Controlled Storage in Container (Hours)	Temperature Stabilisation Material Type	Configuration of Temperature Stabilisation Material	External Temperature
CD Platelets One Donation (2 split packs)	7	5	Green (+22°C +/-2°C)	2 Bottom 2 Top Side by Side	0°C to +30°C
Donated Plasma					
Whole Blood Donation	9	3.5			