

Covenant HealthCare Laboratory Services

Important Update May 2006

In an effort to better utilize blood products, specifically Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP), the Covenant HealthCare Transfusion Service is offering a new product.

Fresh Frozen Plasma that is thawed but not used within 24 hours will be relabeled as "**Thawed Plasma**". The new product will offer an additional 4 days of shelf-life.

"**Thawed plasma**" is similar to FFP except for a reduction in Factor V and Factor VIII, particularly Factor VIII. If there is concern about levels of coagulation factors the patient is receiving, it may be contraindicated to transfuse "**thawed plasma**". Coagulation factor concentrates are recommended in these cases. If type compatible "**thawed plasma**" is available, it will be used first before thawing of any additional FFP.

This change will be effective Monday May 22nd, 2006. Please share this information with the appropriate staff members. Refer questions regarding this change to Donna Hunt, Transfusion Service Coordinator, 583-6771 or Dr. Nicholas Hruby, Laboratory Medical Director, 583-6703.

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Transfusion Service Coordinator

Dr. Nicholas Hruby
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