

# Blood Product Tip Sheet

## Blood Return Times - from the time a unit leaves the Blood Bank:



**Red Blood Cells** –  
20 minutes



**Thawed Plasma** –  
20 minutes



**Platelets** –  
60 minutes  
Store at Room  
Temp



**Thawed  
Cryoprecipitate** –No  
limit, product expires  
in 6 hours  
Store at Room Temp

## Transfusion Guidelines per Lippincott:

- Ensure that the transfusion is started within the facility-designated time of removal from transfusion services (**20 minutes**).
- Administer as the patient can tolerate, usually over 1½ to 2 hours, but complete the transfusion within 4 hours.
- Critical note: If there is an unexpected significant delay once blood product is picked up/sent up and the transfusion cannot be completed within 4 hours, **return the unit to blood bank immediately**.

## Temperature Monitoring:



Temperature reading devices: Blood stored in coolers outside of the blood bank is monitored using a temperature indicator on each red blood cell unit.

- White/Speckled – OK to use
- Red – Call the Blood Bank