

MEMORANDUM #50

To: UNC Hospitals Attending Physicians, Housestaff, Department Heads,
Nursing Staff and Supervisors

From: Linda Braddy, Supervisor, Transfusion Medicine
Mark Brecher, MD, Medical Director, Transfusion Medicine
James D. Folds, PhD, Chair, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

Date: February 7, 2005

Subject: Platelet Aliquots

Starting February 14, 2005 the Transfusion Medicine Service will offer platelet aliquots for neonatal and pediatric patient transfusions. Platelet volumes less than 100 mL will be aliquoted and issued in a prefiltered syringe. A blood administration filter will not be required when administering the platelet aliquot issued in a syringe. Platelet volumes greater than 100 mL will continue to be issued in a bag and will require a blood administration set at the time of transfusion. Platelet aliquots issued in a syringe will expire 6 hours from the time of aliquoting.

To order platelets for neonatal and pediatric patients indicate the desired volume and indication on the Blood Component Order Form. If a volume is not ordered the Transfusion Medicine Service will use 10 mL per kilogram of patient's body weight to calculate the volume.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Transfusion Medicine at 966-4011.