



Expert Guide

# Step by step guide to packing canine red cell products

As the UK's trusted pet blood banking charity, we provide quick access to high quality products as well as expert advice and guidance when you need it most.

We hope this guide is useful.  
If you have any further queries, please contact our team.



01509 232 222



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# Contents

Guide to red cell product transportation

4

General guidance and equipment

Repacking

5

How to repack the red cell unit for transport

# Guide to red cell product transportation

Thank you for your recent order. We recommend that you retain in your practice a Pet Blood Bank (PBB) transport box or two should you need one for transporting your products between practices. Please store these in a clean area ensuring all polystyrene inserts and insulation materials are also retained.

- Outer white box marked to hold 'blood product'
- 12 polystyrene pieces within box
- 2 sheets of coolant (3 x 4 cubes) – to be stored in the same freezer where plasma products are stored (-18°C to -30°C no lower)
- 1 clear zip lock bag
- 3 or 6 lengths of bubble wrap

We recommend that only short delivery distances be covered when transporting red cell unit(s) between practices when temperatures of the coolant is at the higher end of the range i.e. -18°C, with the destination being less than two hours away. Please note that red cell units should always be transported in a separate box from plasma units due to the difference in required storage temperatures.

# Repacking

## Step 1

Having located an empty PBB transport box, ensure the polystyrene pieces are appropriately assembled in box – please do not use a damaged box or one with missing polystyrene pieces. Remove top two pieces (lids) of polystyrene.



Step 1

## Step 2

Ensure each red cell unit is placed in a separate clear zip lock bag (as supplied by PBB) and sealed.



Step 2

## Step 3

If transporting more than one unit (PBB transport boxes can hold up to two units), please ensure that the labels of each unit are facing each other prior to proceeding.



Step 3

# Repacking

## Step 4

Proceed to wrap red cell unit(s) in lengths of bubble wrap: first sheet - wrap the red cells unit(s) inside one end of the first sheet of bubble wrap and roll to the end.



Step 4

## Step 5

Second sheet - turn the roll so that the open end goes into the folded end of the second sheet and roll to the end.

Third sheet – repeat process as above.



Step 5

## Step 6

Place one sheet of coolant (3 x 4 cubes) into the bottom of the box.



Step 6

# Repacking

## Step 7

Place bubble wrapped red cell unit(s) into the transport box on top of the coolant sheet.

Place one sheet of coolant on top of the bubble wrapped red cell unit(s).



Step 7

## Step 8

Fill up any air gaps at the top of the box with bubble wrap...



Step 8

## Step 9

...before replacing the top two pieces (lids) of polystyrene on top of the packaged red cell unit(s).



Step 9

## Step 10

Seal the transport box securely with tape.



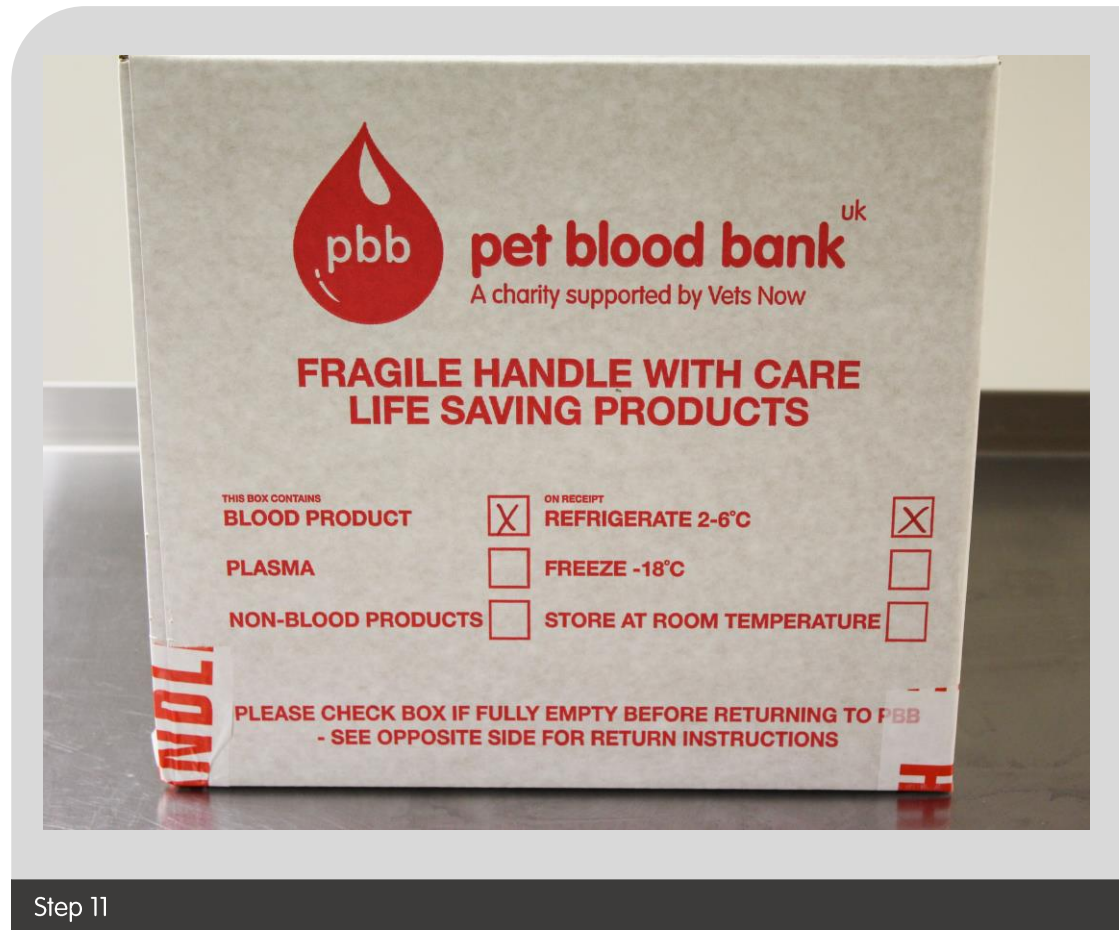
Step 10



# Repacking

## Step 11

Indicate on the transport box the type of blood product contained and the storage requirement on receipt of the product once at the practice.



Step 11



# Note

**Please note:** please only proceed with packaging red cell units when the person transporting them arrives to ensure the units remain at the correct temperature (2-6°C).

Should the receiving practice request that the red cell unit(s) warm up on route, the use of coolant will be at the discretion of the veterinary team sending the product. In such a scenario, please do bear in mind that the red cell unit(s) might expire if temperatures exceed recommended limits should delivery be delayed or interrupted (e.g. traffic delay).

**Thank you for using this guide.  
We hope you found it useful.**

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