



Expert Guide

Step by step guide to the administration of canine plasma 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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Equipment

- Unit of Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP), Frozen Plasma (FP), Cryo-precipitate (Cryo-P) or Cryo-supernatant (Cryo-S) removed from frozen storage
- Zip lock bag
- Clean bowl/tray to act as a water bath to defrost/warm the product
- Thermometer
- Blood administration set
- Drip stand
- Examination gloves
- Recipient prepared with central or peripheral IV access. The catheter should have been flushed with normal 0.9% saline and capped with a sterile bung
- Alcohol wipes

Defrosting

Step 1

Before administration, the selected plasma unit will need to be defrosted. The plasma unit can either be defrosted at room temperature or placed in a warm water bath at body temperature. A 200ml unit of plasma will take approximately 3hr 35 minutes to defrost at room temperature (21°C) or 11 minutes in a warm water (37°C) bath, smaller units will take less time. A water bath can be used to warm a defrosted unit before administration. Ensure that the water temperature is monitored and does not exceed 37°C using a thermometer or use a commercial water bath. The unit must be protected in a plastic zip lock bag whilst in the water to prevent contamination of the administration ports.



Step 1

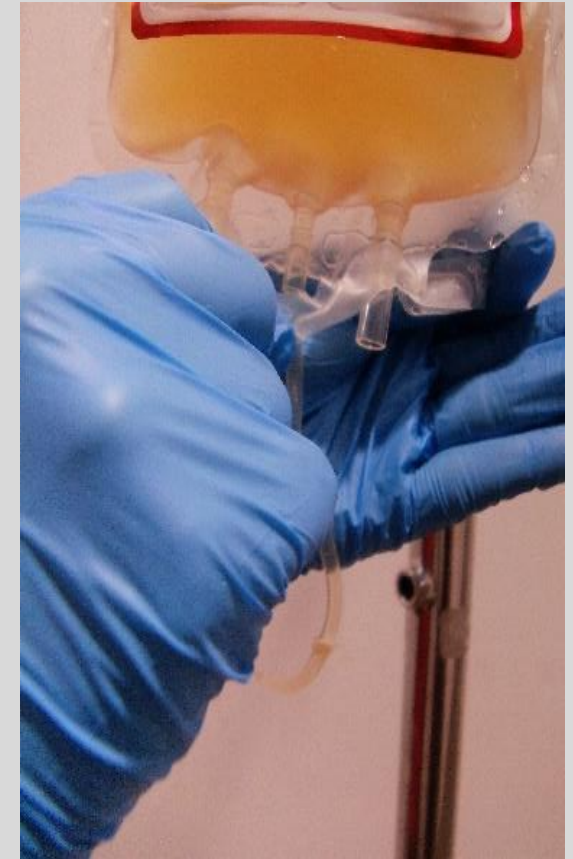
Preparation

Steps 2 and 3

Once warmed, the plasma unit should be removed from the plastic zip lock bag and hung on a drip stand. Wearing gloves, access one of the administration ports on the plasma unit by tearing the protective cover using aseptic technique.



Step 2



Step 3

Preparation

Step 4

Remove a blood administration set from its outer packaging and prepare for use by closing off the in-line C clamp (where present) and the drip wheel.

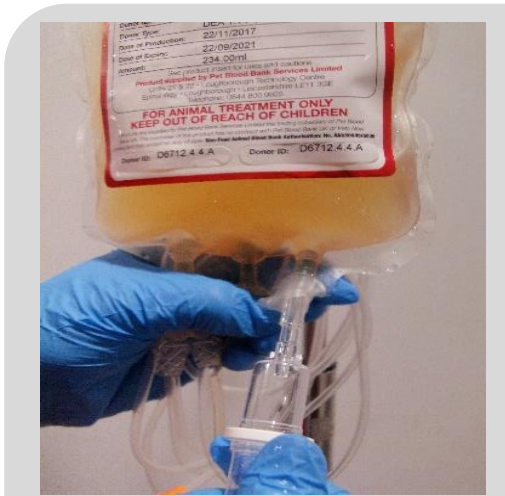
Note: A standard blood administration set will usually administer 20 drops/ml



Step 4

Steps 5 and 6

The insertion spike is unsheathed in an aseptic manner and pushed into the plasma unit via the revealed administration port ensuring it is fully inserted to reach the plasma.



Step 5

The plasma unit is now breached and must be discarded after 4 hours.



Step 6

Preparation

Step 8

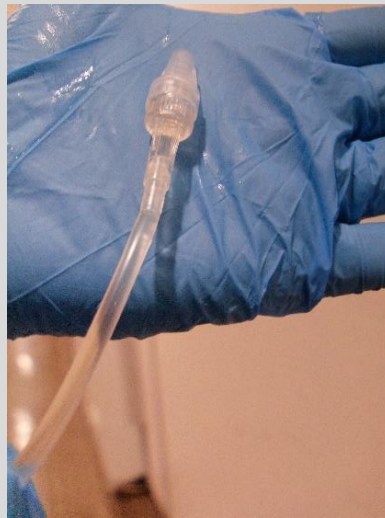
Fill the drip chamber to approximately half to two thirds taking care not to damage the chamber filter. Ensure the fill level is above the filter but not so full that the drip rate cannot be observed. Open any clamps on the line.



Step 8

Step 9

Slowly release the drip wheel to prime the entire length of the administration line to the very end. Do not remove the cover.



Step 9

Step 10

Always keep the blood administration set off the floor. Once primed and with no air bubbles present in the administration line, the plasma unit is ready to aseptically attach to the patient's disinfected and flushed intravenous catheter and transfuse.



Step 10

Filtration of blood products

All blood products must be administered through a microaggregate filter (normally 170-260 micron) to facilitate removal of any small clots and other debris. These filters may be an integral part of the lines, for example in a blood administration set or may be attached between the blood product and the patient if the blood is being delivered from a syringe (Fig.1).

This is more common with felines and small canine patients where blood volumes are typically small. It may also be used where slower infusion rates are to be used to avoid the blood remaining out of the fridge for greater than 4 hours and reduce wastage of any remaining blood. Refer to our **Blood Unit Separation Guide** for instructions on how to separate blood units into smaller volumes.

Note that the blood filters filter up to 50ml of blood product, after which time they should be discarded and a new filter used. Pet Blood Bank now supplies the SA150 filter (Fig.2) in place of the Hemo-nate filter

Pet Blood Bank advises that a new blood administration set is used for each new unit.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2 SA150 blood filter

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

To make transfusion medicine as easy for you as possible, we also provide:

- Blood deliveries around the clock
- Quality tested products that reduce the risk of complications
- Advice on cross matching and selecting blood products
- Administrative equipment

For more information about our blood products,
or to get further advice, please contact us



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