|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Principle | | | |
|  | To calibrate the temperature of waterbaths and heating blocks. | | | |
|  | Scope and Related Policies | | | |
|  | 2.1 | Waterbaths and other heating devices shall be calibrated to the required temperature as indicated in manufacturer’s instructions and prior to placing into service (on receipt and following repair). Their temperature must be checked and documented each time they are used.9.1 | | |
|  | 2.2 | The accepted temperature range for tube tests (e.g. reagent screening cells) is 37 ±1°C. 9.2 | | |
|  | 2.3 | The accepted temperature range for MTS gel cards (e.g. IgG) is 37± 2°C. 9.3 | | |
|  | 2.4 | Frozen plasma should be thawed at 30-37°C.9.1 | | |
|  | 2.5 | Records of temperature checks for waterbaths and other heating devices shall be kept for a minimum of 5 years.9.1 | | |
|  | 2.6 | Equipment used for thawing blood components must not be used for incubation of serological tests or test biological specimens.9.1 | | |
|  | Specimens – N/A | | | |
|  | Materials | | | |
|  | **Equipment:** Calibrated thermometers  **Supplies:** Record of Temperature/Cleaning (QCA.006F)  Manufacturer’s instructions | | | |
|  |
|  | Quality Control | | | |
|  | 5.1 | Temperatures must be recorded and documented when plasma is thawed 9.1 and recommended prior to incubation of tests. | | |  |
|  | 5.2 | When using a heating block, the tubes should be the size that the heating block was designed to hold. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for alternative size tubes. | | |  |
|  | Procedure | | | |
| * 1. Document the temperature of the waterbath or heating block on QCA.006F each time a test is incubated or unit of frozen plasma is thawed. | | | | |
| * 1. Following validation or confirmation of repairs and return to service: | | | * + 1. Install the equipment (and fill with water, if applicable) as per the manufacturer’s instructions. | |
| * + 1. Place a calibrated thermometer in a small test tube filled with water. | |
| * + 1. Place the test tube containing the thermometer in the centre of the waterbath or heating block. | |
| * + 1. Check the temperature on the thermometer every 20 minutes until the temperature reaches 37°C. | |
| * + 1. When the thermometer indicates 37°C: | * + - 1. Adjust the temperature control knob so that the thermostat is no longer heating (i.e., indicator light is no longer on). |
| * + 1. Continue to leave the thermometer in the waterbath or heating block. | |
| * + 1. Recheck the temperature on the thermometer several times over the next 10 minutes to make sure that it remains at 37°C. | |

# Reporting – N/A

# Procedural Notes – N/A

# References

## Standards for Hospital Transfusion Services Version 3- February 2011. Canadian Society for Transfusion Medicine, 3.1.5, 3.5.3, 5.5.3.1, 3.3.1.1, 3.3.1.2, 3.3.1.3, Appendix A

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# Revision History

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| --- | --- |
| **Revision Date** | **Summary of Revision** |
| September 1, 2015 | * Revised name of manual * Revised wording of sections 5.0 & 6.0 * Updated list of references to include most recent editions |