

COMPONENTS FOR NEONATAL OR PAEDIATRIC USE

Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP), Methylene Blue Treated (MBT) and Removed for neonatal and paediatric transfusion

This is plasma that has been obtained from whole blood or apheresis plasma from volunteer male* or non pregnant tested female* donors, imported from a country with lower vCJD risk than the UK and treated with Methylene Blue then exposed to visible light as a viral inactivation method. Following more than 90% removal of methylene blue and splitting into smaller volume neonatal aliquots (50 ml), the plasma is rapidly frozen at a temperature that will maintain the activity of labile coagulation factors. Countries with lower vCJD risk than the UK do not screen their donations for high titre ABO antibodies.

Larger volume (approx. 200 mL) imported plasma Methylene Blue treated units are available for treatment of older children.

The UK Department of Health recommended that FFP given to neonates and children born on or after 1st January 1996 should be obtained from an area free of BSE and subjected to pathogen reduction procedures. In 2012 this was extended to recipients aged 16 years or more by the Advisory Committee on the Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs (SaBTO).

*Plasma can occasionally cause a reaction called Transfusion-Related Acute Lung Injury (TRALI) which leads to problems with breathing and is sometimes severe. One cause is thought to be certain proteins present in the plasma when the donor has been pregnant in the past. To minimise the risk of TRALI, non- UK plasma is from male donors who have never had a transfusion or female donors who have never been pregnant and are negative for leucocyte antibodies.

Low titre anti-T FFP

This plasma is UK sourced. It is specifically indicated for transfusion of infants in whom classical T activation has been demonstrated. A limited supply is available for transfusion to infants with classical T activation and haemolysis.

Cryoprecipitate, Methylene Blue (MB) Treated and Removed, Leucocyte Depleted for neonatal and paediatric transfusion

This component is the cryoglobulin fraction manufactured from imported plasma which has undergone Methylene Blue treatment and removal. It is available as single units which contains the major portion of FVIII and fibrinogen.

Pooled Cryoprecipitate, Methylene Blue(MB) Treated and Removed, Leucocyte Depleted for neonatal and paediatric transfusion

As neonates and children born on or after 1st January 1996 grow and age, they require larger volumes of Cryoprecipitate, hence NHSBT's decision to manufacture and introduce MB Pooled Cryoprecipitate ("MB Pooled Cryo") into our portfolio of components.

A single MB Cryo pool consists of 6 single Cryo donations.