

TRANS-VUE™

Handling/Use Instructions/Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), and Color Change Interpretation Information

Application and Use

TRANS-VUE 6, TRANS-VUE 8, and TRANS-VUE 10 for Storage and Transport Container Temperature Monitoring

- Store TRANS-VUE Reusable Devices with Replaceable Temperature Indicators attached in blood refrigerator at the temperature printed on the TRANS-VUE Device at least 24 hours prior to use.
- Pack items to be transported or stored.
- **Follow these steps:**

Step 1: Remove paper to expose adhesive and place sticky end of TRANS-VUE Replaceable Temperature Indicator onto the TRANS-VUE Reusable Device and store at the temperature printed on the TRANS-VUE Device at least 24 hours prior to use.



Be sure the disposable TRANS-VUE Indicator is properly adhered to the media “pillow” in the TRANS-VUE Temperature Sensing Device before activating.



Step 2: Remove TRANS-VUE Device from refrigerator. Peel off the white paper/foil lid from the TRANS-VUE Replaceable Temperature Indicator protruding from the TRANS-VUE Reusable Device.



Step 3: To activate, firmly press the white round into the red round until they fully close together.



Step 4: Be careful to press ONLY on the white round to activate properly.

Step 5: Place the activated TRANS-VUE Reusable Temperature Sensing Device into the transport or storage container so that it is between items being transported.



NOTE: Refer to our web site www.williamlabs.com, then “Video Instructions”, TRANS-VUE.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About TRANS-VUE 6, 8, and 10

- Q:** What temperature should blood or the temperature-sensitive products being monitored be **at** prior to attaching TRANS-VUE?
- A:** Blood temperature and other products should be as cold (between 2°C and 4.5°C) as possible. A low start temperature is critical to safe transport of blood or temperature-sensitive products.

Q: How long can the blood bag or temperature-sensitive product being monitored be out of the refrigerator and avoid unnecessary warming during normal handling, labeling, and packing?

A: Based on field experience, RBCs and most temperature-sensitive products may be out of refrigeration no more than 10 minutes before issuing. If RBCs and temperature-sensitive products are out of refrigeration for more than 10 minutes they should be re-refrigerated for a minimum of 90 minutes before issuing.

Q: Does the temperature of the room have any effect on TRANS-VUE?

A: Room temperature will affect heat transfer from/or to anything in it. A cooler room temperature will help keep blood bags or temperature-sensitive products cool once they are removed from the refrigerator.

Q: Do busy blood refrigerators affect blood temperature?

A: Refrigerators with high door counts should be high recovery(1) units to ensure maintenance of blood at required safe temperature. An increase of 3 to 4°C can take place in air temperature of a blood refrigerator held open for 30 seconds.

(1) Helmer brand blood refrigerators are one of several considered high recovery.

Q: Do you have any protocols for packing blood products?

A: When packing with wet ice or reusable cold packs, follow the packing instructions provided with your validated shipping container(2). When using wet ice or reusable cold packs, the top-most layer should be the wet ice or cold packs to keep warm air from the blood bags or temperature-sensitive products being monitored—the air above the cold packs is close to room temperature and remains that way during shipment. Avoid direct contact between wet ice packing and blood or temperature-sensitive products being monitored unless specified by your packing protocol. Use an adsorbent pad to control moisture condensation, and to act as an insulator between the blood bags or temperature-sensitive products and your wet ice or cold pack. The American Red Cross provides a packing protocol for transport of 350 mL and larger bags of WHOLE and RBCs in one of their JOB AID bulletins(3).

(2) Thermosafe® has a validated small (Igloo brand style [BC15] and a large [MC 50]) cooler for blood transport with a detailed packing protocol.

(3) Reference: American Red Cross JOB AID, BSD73.200M/JA02 (8/04).

Q: Is the temperature measurement thermometer important?

A: For validation(4) of TRANS-VUE 6, TRANS-VUE 8, and TRANS-VUE 10, we suggest using thermister electronic thermometers and probes(5) inside simulated blood bags(6) ($\pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$ stated accuracy). Avoid surface measurement such as an infrared thermometer ($\pm 1.5^\circ\text{C}$ typical stated accuracy) or a glass thermometer in contact with only the surface of the bag.

(4) DigiSense is one source for thermister thermometer and appropriate immersion probes.

(5) For a detailed validation protocol, visit our web site at www.williamlabs.com, go to “References and Documents”, then download QAP 0300 incoming inspection protocol for the TRANS-VUE product you are using. (Call Customer Service at 800/767-7643).

(6) Simulated blood bags may be prepared using the appropriate volume of water with 10% glycerol by volume or Copper Sulfate-similar solution. Reference: *Technical Manual, American Association of Blood Banks*.

Color Change Interpretation

When using TRANS-VUE 6, TRANS-VUE 8, and TRANS-VUE 10, it is important to properly interpret TRANS-VUE's color change as follows:

1. The color change takes place over about 1°C.

(Refer to the lot specific Quality Assurance(7) document included with each shipment.)

(7) Lot specific Quality Assurance documents can be found on our web site; go to www.williamlabs.com, then "Documents and References" and select the lot you require.

2. Temperature has been reached ONLY when the entire white area is colored rose to red(8).

(8) Sometimes a pinkish hue or cast can be observed in the white disk at the start. THIS IS NOT A TEMPERATURE CHANGE. Depending upon the light source, it is a muted refraction of the bottom red disc. It is clearly distinguishable from the color change of rose to red. Use of a positive control is recommended to ensure correct interpretation.

3. When the start of the color change is typically in spots of light rose to red anywhere in the white area, the color change has started but is not completed until the white area has turned to red.

4. When you observe a red color indication but are certain the blood or temperature-sensitive product being monitored is below the color-indicating temperature of the TRANS-VUE product you are using, please review the following list of actions and/or environmental factors to determine what may be causing the red indication:

a. Handling of TRANS-VUE at the Wrong End–

Indicator should be handled ONLY by the round, color-coded label end. TRANS-VUE is extremely sensitive to its environment and touching or grasping the red end of the indicator will usually result in activation of the temperature-sensitive materials contained in TRANS-VUE.

b. Improper Activation—when activating, be sure to press ONLY the white, color-coded round label end into the red end. Pressing directly on the red end may cause activation.

c. Premature Removal of Paper/Foil Lid—peel the paper/foil lid ONLY after the TRANS-VUE device has been refrigerated at the specified temperature for 24 hours with the temperature indicator attached, and immediately before placing the device into the transport or storage container, between items being transported.

d. Excessive Time Taken to Activate—activation should occur within 15 seconds from the time TRANS-VUE is removed from the refrigerator. Refer to separate instructions for activating TRANS-VUE.

e. Busy Refrigerator—check door counts since an increase of 3 to 4°C can take place in the air temperature of a blood refrigerator held open for 30 seconds.

f. Location in Refrigerator—a high door count blood refrigerator may warm TRANS-VUE if it is located in an area of the refrigerator where it is swept by warm room air. TRANS-VUE should be located in a sheltered area to maintain proper start temperature.

g. Blood Not Cold Enough—blood received from a supplier is sometimes very close to 10°C on arrival. Be certain blood is in the refrigerator a minimum of 90 minutes before release from the blood bank when a return is likely, as when sending to the OR.

For additional information or questions concerning Handling and Proper Use of any TRANS-VUE product, call toll free 800/767-7643 Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm EST and ask for Customer Service.

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