



March 11, 2016

To: Directors of Clinical Laboratories
Directors of Transfusion Services
From: Juan A. Merayo-Rodriguez, MD
Medical Director, LifeSouth Community Blood Centers
Subject: **Implementation of Pooled Cryo Using a Closed-System**

LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is pleased to announce the implementation of a *closed system* for production of Pooled Cryoprecipitated AHF and the addition of 2-pooled Cryo (designed for pediatric patients) to the list of components offered.

Closed System

LifeSouth will phase out Pooled Cryo production via an *open system* over the next several months. Movement to a *closed system* will allow you to retain the Pooled Cryo component for up to 6 hours after thawing, as opposed to the current 4 hours, provided you relabel the component as Thawed Pooled Cryoprecipitate.

2-pooled Cryo

Some customers have requested smaller pools of Cryo for use with pediatric patients. LifeSouth has validated a process for making pools of 2 (as opposed to 5). These pools have an approximate 50 mL volume and Factor VIII and Fibrinogen levels consistent with AABB Standards. If you are interested in these smaller pools, please contact your local LifeSouth region.

Note: We continue to offer single Cryoprecipitated AHF components as well

New Product Codes

The following table includes all of the codes your computer system should be able to accept to accommodate the changes associated with the new methodology for cryo production:

	Pooled Cryo Product Code	Thawed Pooled Cryo Product Code	Expiry Date
CURRENT code*	E3588 (# units not designated, open system)	E3592 (# units not designated, open system, thawed)	4 hours after thawing
NEW code	E7829 (5-unit pool, open system)	E7827 (5-unit pool, open system, thawed)	4 hours after thawing
NEW code	E5621 (5-unit pool, closed system)	E6552 (5-unit pool, closed system, thawed)	6 hours after thawing
NEW code	E8602 (2-unit pool, closed system)	E8604 (2-unit pool, closed system, thawed)	6 hours after thawing

* The current product code in use will be changed to designate the number of units in the pool (5) – you may see any and all of these product codes in use over the next few months.

A representative of LifeSouth will be available to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact me at 1-888-795-2707, if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Juan A. Merayo-Rodriguez, MD Medical Director
e-mail: jamerayo-rodriguez@lifesouth.org
LifeSouth Community Blood Centers