

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
NURSING POLICIES
HOT LINE FLUID WARMER For Blood/Fluids**

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Effective Date: August 18, 2000

Policy No: 8620.038a

Cross Referenced:

Origin: Division of Nursing

Reviewed Date: 10/11

Authority: Chief Nursing Officer

Revised Date: 10/30/15

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SCOPE

All nurses who give blood products or Intravenous fluid, or instill fluids

PURPOSE

To outline the nursing procedure for the use of the Hot Line Fluid Warmer for warming blood and fluids prior to transfusion or instillation between 37 - 42°C.

DEFINITIONS

- I. Hotline Blood and Fluid Warmer is a device using triple-lumen disposable tubing designed to deliver warm fluids to the patient. Keeps blood and fluids warm, between 37 - 42°C, delivering warm fluids to the patient at flow rates up to 5000 ml/hr.

POLICY

To provide safe administration of blood or fluids that needs to be warmed prior to transfusion

PROCEDURE

I. General:

- A. May be used for blood products and fluids
- B. Contraindicated or cryoprecipitates or granulocyte suspensions
- C. Not for use with pressured devices generating over 300mg Hg.

II. Equipment:

- A. Hotline Warmer (HL-90)
- B. Hotline administration set
- C. Extension tube, 8"
- D. Intravenous fluid or blood
- E. Distilled water

II. Set up:

- A. Check that the water level is above the minimum level mark on the tank. Add distilled water (recirculating solution) to the tank through the fillport if required. Do not use tap water.
- B. Plug into power outlet.
- C. Visually check the condition of the unit
- D. Plug the Twin-Tube Connector into the socket on the right side of the **HOTLINE** Warmer.
- E. Activate the Power Switch on the left side of the Warmer.
- F. Inspect the patient end of the tubing for leaks to confirm the integrity of the intravenous pathway.

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III. Connecting the Intravenous/Blood Component Tubing

- A. Wash your hands
- B. Explain the procedure to the patient.
- C. Connect the IV fluid "intravenous/blood component tubing" to the **HOTLINE** Warming Set. Plug the twin –tube connector on the hotline fluid warming set into the socket.
- D. Remove from service any machine which shows physical damage or one in which the **HOTLINE** warming set does not easily install.
- E. Fully prime the intravenous/blood component administration set, the **HOTLINE** Warming Set, and patient extension set (if used).
- F. The circulating water path will automatically prime when the unit is turned on. The green “**OPERATING**” light on the display panel will illuminate and the temperature display will begin to increase.
- G. Connect to the patient’s intravenous access site without entrapping air.
- H. Initiate the blood component/fluid instillation.

IV. Infusion Maintenance

- A. Confirm that the circulating water bath temperature display reaches 37°C in about 4 minutes.
- B. Confirm that the water bath temperature is at 41- 42°C which indicates the warmer is ready for use.
- C. After 4 minutes optimal operating range should be 41 - 42°C. If the temperature is out of range, take out of service, tag the equipment for Biomed.

V. Post infusion/ After use

- A. Turn off the Power Switch on the left side of the Warmer.
- B. Remove the **HOTLINE** Warming Set.
- C. Return to dirty utility room for Central Service pick up. If any visible soiling disinfectant wipes in patient room may be used to clean the warmer. Dispose of tubing in biohazard or regular waste.

Documentation

1. Document in the Blood Transfusion band that the Hotline Fluid Warmer was utilized in the blood transfusion process or in the nurses’ notes for fluid instillations.

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Troubleshooting:

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|--|---|
| No Power | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit plugged in? • Power switch on? • NOTE: <i>If plugged in and power switch is ON then the green LED will glow.</i> |
| DISPOSABLE alarm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposable properly installed? Push Twin-Tube Connector firmly into HOTLINE Warmer Socket. |
| ADD WATER alarm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add distilled water to the water tank to the MAX fill line. • CAUTION: <i>Do not fill the HOTLINE water tank with a HOTLINE Warming Set in place.</i> |
| CIRCULATING WATER BATH OVER TEMPERATURE alarm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check Warming Set for tubing kinks or other restrictions. • Check for air lock: Turn Power Switch “OFF”, remove the Warming set, gently shake HOTLINE to dislodge air, plug in Warming Set and turn Power Switch “ON”. • If there are no restrictions or air present, remove the HOTLINE from service and return it for repair or replacement. |
| Hot Cabinet | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blocked air vents on the bottom or the back of the unit? • NOTE: Room temperature above 42°C may cause the HOTLINE to shut down and the over temperature alarm to activate. <i>In this unusual situation, turn the power switch off and allow the unit to cool down before returning it to service.</i> |
| Over Temperature Alarm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check the HOTLINE Fluid Warming Set for kinks or other restrictions. • Check for air lock: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Turn the power switch OFF, remove the HOTLINE Fluid Warming Set, and gently shake HOTLINE Warmer to dislodge air. b. Plug in the HOTLINE Fluid Warming Set and turn power switch ON. c. If the alarm is not cleared, remove the HOTLINE Warmer from service and return it for repair or replacement. |

REFERENCES:

<http://www.smiths-medical.com/catalog/fluid-warming/low-flow-hotline/hardware/hotline-blood-fluid-warmer.html> Accessed 10/29/2015

Hotline blood and fluid warmer Operator’s Manual. Smith Medical 2013. p.17-21