

# Canine Packed Red Blood Cells (PRBC)

*For animal treatment only*



## Presentation:

Canine Packed Red Blood Cells (PRBC) contain red blood cells suspended in a small volume of plasma and SAG-M nutrient solution. The buffy coat remains in this product but platelets and leucocytes are not thought to have any therapeutic benefit.

One Standard Unit is approximately 250ml. This contains Packed Red Blood Cells in 100ml of SAG-M. One Half Unit is approximately 125ml. This contains Packed Red Blood Cells in 50ml of SAG-M.

## Uses:

Packed Red Blood Cells is the blood product of choice in the treatment of anaemia or other disorders of oxygen transport. Packed Red Blood Cells may be used in the treatment of acute and chronic blood loss, haemolytic destruction of red blood cells or disorders of red cell production.

## Dosage and Administration:

Packed Red Blood Cells are intended for intravenous use only.

**Dosage:** As a general estimate 1ml/kg of packed red cells will raise PVC by 1 percentage point or the haemoglobin level by 0.3g/dl.

**Rate of Administration:** The calculated dose should be given within 4 hours to normovolaemic patients. Hypovolaemic patients may tolerate or require transfusion more rapidly. Packed Red Blood Cells should be used with caution and rapid transfusion should be discouraged in patients with cardiac disease or risk of circulatory embarrassment.

**Administration:** Packed Red Blood Cells once outwith a refrigerator and breached for use must be used within 4 hours and any product remaining after this time discarded.

**Always administer using a filtered blood giving set** or suitable inline blood filter. Gently re-suspend Packed Red Blood Cells by inversion prior to spiking pack. Do not mix or administer any other intravenous drugs or products through the same IV line. 0.9% saline ONLY can be used to flush IV lines and catheter.

**Monitoring:** The infusion should be commenced slowly and the patient monitored closely (see adverse reactions). It is recommended that patients be monitored using a transfusion record form, available to download from the Pet Blood Bank website.

## Precautions, Warnings and Adverse Reactions:

Canine Packed Red Blood Cells is for use in puppies and adult dogs only.

**Precautions:** Inspect before use. If you have any concerns please contact Pet Blood Bank for further advice.

**Handling Precautions:** In case of accidental contact with skin, wash affected areas thoroughly with warm soapy water. Unused product and empty pack should be discarded and disposed of as clinical waste.

**Warning:** Care should be taken to avoid volume overload.

In spite of serological and PCR testing performed on a proportion of the donors, a risk of transmitting infectious agents to the patient is present. Careful donor selection, care, and available laboratory tests do not eliminate this hazard.

## Adverse Reactions to Packed Red Blood Cells:

Acute and delayed, immunological and non-immunological transfusion reactions can occur with products of this type. These can manifest a variety of clinical signs. If during the transfusion, tachycardia, increased temperature, hyperventilation, emesis, hives or trembling occurs slow the transfusion down. Categorise the type of reaction and treat appropriately. Should serious symptoms continue the transfusion should be abandoned.

Delayed reactions can occur days to weeks post transfusion. All potential transfusion reactions should be reported immediately using a potential transfusion reaction form, available to download from the Pet Blood Bank website.

**Storage:** Packed Red Blood Cells must be stored in a refrigerator at a temperature between 2-6 °C. Each pack should be stored with adequate space between each to allow air to circulate. Any additional packaging including zip lock bags used for transport must be removed before storage. The packs should be mixed by gentle inversion several times each week during the storage period. Temperature stability is very important. Pet Blood Bank recommends continuous temperature monitoring of all storage areas. Temperatures must be recorded to ensure Packed Red Blood Cells are stored within appropriate temperature range. Packed Red Blood Cells should be stored separately from food or other possible contaminants, ideally in a dedicated blood fridge.

**Leakage:** If leakage becomes apparent the entire pack must be discarded.

**Shelf Life:** Packed Red Blood Cells have a shelf life of 42 days from date of collection.

The product label indicates the expiry date. Blood products must not be administered to a patient after their expiry date. Once expired they should be discarded into clinical waste.

**Warming:** To prepare for administration passive warming at room temperature is recommended. Where active warming is required do NOT use a microwave oven. Place in a waterproof zip lock bag and immerse the bag in a water bath of not more than 37°C.

---

## Non-Food Animal Blood Bank Authorisation: No. Abb30549/8000

*Products are supplied by Pet Blood Bank Services Limited the trading subsidiary of Pet Blood Bank uk. The purchaser of this product has no contract with Pet Blood Bank uk or Vets Now Limited and they accept no duty of care.*