

## Packing Supplies and Configuration for Returning Red Cells to Your Blood Center

RBCs may be returned when allowed by the service agreement and the following packing configuration is followed. Packing supplies are available from your blood center.

### Packing supplies

- CF-45/CF-89 Shipping Container with insulated panels
  - a. The CF-45 holds 1 inner box, the CF-89 holds 2.
  - b. If the CF-89 container is used, ensure both inner boxes are packed appropriately.
- Plastic Bag(s)
- Absorbent Pads (white/blue, 9x9 inches)
- Blood Shipper Ice: Do not store at temps colder than -35C. If stored at <-20C, leave ice at ambient room temperature for at least 20 min. prior to packing. Ensure ice is frozen solid prior to packing shipping container.
- Gel packs (8 oz): Equilibrate to a temperature of 1-6C.

### Packing Instructions

1. Place plastic bag inside inner box.
2. Place 2 absorbent pads inside plastic bag, absorbent side up.
3. Insert inner cardboard sleeve.
4. Within the plastic bag, place one frozen solid blood shipper ice on each end of the cardboard sleeve, positioned between the sleeve and the inner box wall.
5. Place components on top of the absorbent pads. (Each inner box holds 5 WB or 8 RBC components. If shipping less than 5 components, use 1 refrigerated gel pack for each component needed to get to 5. Example, if you are shipping 3 components, add 2 gel packs).
6. Place 2 absorbent pads, absorbent side down, on top of components.
7. Close and secure plastic bag.
8. Insert top insulated panel.
9. Close and seal container.
10. Ship to your blood center to ensure container is received within 24 hours.

### Additional Training Resource

- [Shipping Blood Components Course](http://www.vitalanthealth.org) on [www.vitalanthealth.org](http://www.vitalanthealth.org).

