PURPOSE: To reinfuse the patient's own blood.

POLICY: Autotransfusion will be done as ordered by the physician.

The patient can expect to have their chest drainage reinfused in an aseptic and rapid manner.

GUIDELINES:

The nurse will have knowledge of the procedure to be performed.

Procedure:

1. Preparation

   Equipment needed:
   
   A. Pleur-evac plus A-9250.
   B. Standard blood tubing.
   B. Transfusion bag.

2. Teaching

   Instruct the patient about the procedure to be performed.

3. Implementation

   A. Set up ATS system.
      1) Set up Pleur-Evac A-9250 per policy and procedure.
      2) Connect tubing from top of collection chamber of Pleur-Evac to patient’s thoracic catheter.
      3) Band the connections at the thoracic catheter only.
      4) Document collection start time.
      5) Blood needs to be collected and transfused within 4 hours of starting time.

   B. Transfusion blood to a transfer bag.
      1) Remove the tethered cap from the end of the exit port tube on the A-9250.
      2) Remove the cover from spike on the transfer bag and spike the port on the end of the exit port tube.
      3) Suspend the transfer bag as far below the exit port of the Pleur-Evac as possible and depress the high negativity relief valve on the A-9250 to speed the rate of blood transfer to the transfer bag.
      4) When desired amount of blood has been transferred evacuate any air in the transfer bag by squeezing the bag and forcing the air back into collection chamber.
      5) Close the clamp on the exit port tube. Close the clamp on transfer line of transfer bag.
      6) Disconnect bag. Replace tethered cap on end of exit tube.
C. Preparing for reinfusion

1) Prime standard blood transfusion tubing with 0.9% saline.
2) Open the protective cover on the spike port on the transfer bag and spike the port with the blood tubing.
3) Reinfuse blood by gravity or by using a pressure cuff.
4) Autotransfusion may be completed by using the fluid warmer tubing if fluid warmer is utilized.

Caution: Only blood in first collection chamber (first 1000 ml) can be retrieved for autotransfusion. Transfer bag holds 600 ml.

4. Documentation

Document the amount of drainage in the ATS system on the output section of the medical record.

Document the chest drainage amount infused on the medical record as autotransfusion.