**Name of Policy:** Storage of Vessels for Transplantation  
**Policy Number:** 3364-140-42  
**Department:** Kidney Transplant Administration (Nursing Service)  
**Approving Officer:** Vice President Clinical Services  
**Director, Renal Transplant Program**  
**Responsible Agent:** Transplant Coordinator  
**Scope:** The University of Toledo Medical Center  

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**Effective Date:** 10/7/15  
**Initial Effective Date:** June 9, 2009

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(A) **Policy Statement**

Vessels that accompany organs for transplantation will not be stored for use at a later date or for another recipient. Any vessel not used in the original transplant operation will be discarded at the end of the procedure in accordance with hospital protocols.

(B) **Purpose of Policy**

To comply with OPTN/UNOS regulations regarding vessel storage.

(C) **Procedure**

1. At the end of every transplant operation, any unused vessels will be disposed of by the operating room staff.
2. The operating room staff will inform the transplant office of vessel disposal. The transplant staff will report in UNET/Tiedi vessel disposition. Reporting will occur within 7 days of destruction per UNOS policy.
3. No vessels will be stored for use at a later time.
4. If the spleen and lymph nodes are packed with the donor organ, they will be placed into the OR Blood Refrigerator, and the tissue typing lab will be notified to pick them up as soon as possible after the transplant procedure.
5. Vessels which are to be used for research will be transported to the research laboratory for storage, as soon as possible. They will not be used for transplantation.

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**Approved by:**

[Signature]

Daniel Bebee  
Vice President Clinical Services

Michael Rees, MD  
Director, Renal Transplant Program

**Review/Revision Completed By:**

Transplant Administrator

**Review/Revision Date:**

1/12/2010  
12/3/12  
10/7/15

**Next Review Date:** 10/7/18

Policies Superseded by This Policy: