Pathological cold autoantibodies are clinically significant antibodies which demonstrate a broad thermal range, specifically enhanced reactivity between 30°C and 37°C using albumin techniques, and capable of binding complement in vivo. These antibodies may occur in association with a number of underlying diseases particularly mycoplasma pneumonia infections and infectious mononucleosis. Clinical significance may vary. Increased bilirubin, elevated reticulocyte values and decreased haptoglobin may indicate immune hemolysis.

It is recommended that red blood cells be transfused through a blood warmer.