

VACCINE STORAGE AND HANDLING (Post On Refrigerator)

It is extremely important to follow proper vaccine storage and handling procedures. Outdated or improperly handled vaccines will not protect patients. The guidelines below will ensure that the vaccines you administer are potent and effective, and will help you avoid any unnecessary loss of vaccine.

1. Never use outdated vaccines. Check expiration dates at least monthly & rotate stock so that the shortest dated vaccine is used first.
2. Have calibrated thermometer in each storage unit.
3. Check & log temperatures in both refrigerator & freezer when you arrive and before you leave for the day.
4. Post "Do Not Unplug" signs at wall outlet & circuit breaker. Develop emergency plan & keep a cooler nearby to move vaccines, if needed.
5. Keep vaccine in original boxes until it is time to use. Never store vaccines in refrigerator door or drawers. Never store food with vaccines.
6. For further information on storage and handling of vaccines & transport of vaccines refer to: Vaccine Storage and Handling Guide October 2011 from CDC at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/guide/default.htm>

VACCINE	ARRIVAL CONDITION ²	STORAGE REQUIREMENTS
DTaP, DTaP-IPV-Hep B, DTaP-IPV, DTaP-IPV/Hib ¹ , DT, Td, Tdap, Hep B-Hib, Hib ¹ , Hep A-Hep B (combination), Hep A, Hep B, HPV2, HPV4, IPV, MPSV4 ^{1,3} , MCV4 ¹ , PCV13, PPSV23 & TIV ("flu shot")	Packed with refrigerant. Vaccine should NOT have been frozen.	Refrigerate immediately upon arrival at 35° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). DO NOT FREEZE. Protect MCV4¹, Hib¹, TIV, HPV4 & HPV2 from light. Diluent: When packaged with vaccine, store together in the original box, in the refrigerator.
Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)	VFC vaccine will be packed with refrigerant. NOTE: Private stock vaccine will arrive initially in a frozen state if coming directly from MedImmune.	Refrigerate immediately upon arrival at 35° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). DO NOT FREEZE.
Rotavirus (RV1 ¹ -Rotarix [®] & RV5-Rotateq [®])	Packed with refrigerant. Vaccine should NOT have been frozen.	Refrigerate immediately upon arrival at 35° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). DO NOT FREEZE. RV1¹ diluent: May be stored separately at room temperature. Protect both rotavirus vaccines from light.
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) ¹	<u>VFC Vaccine shipped from McKesson:</u> Packed with refrigerant. May be frozen. <u>Vaccine shipped directly from Merck:</u> Packed with non-reusable frozen gel packs (good for 72 hours)	Vaccine: Refrigerate at 35° to 46°F (2° to 8°C) or freeze at -58°F to +5°F (-50°C to -15°C) upon arrival. Diluent: Store separately at room temperature or refrigerate at 35° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Protect MMR¹ from light at all times.
Varicella ¹ Zoster ^{1,3} Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella ¹ (MMRV)	Packed with non-reusable frozen gel packs (good for 72 hours)	Vaccine: Maintain continuously in a frozen state at temperature -58°F to +5°F (-50°C to -15°C). Diluent: Store separately at room temperature or refrigerate at 35° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Protect from light at all times.

¹ Use only the diluent that comes with the vaccine. For more information on vaccines that need to be reconstituted refer to: A Quick Reference to Combination and/or Reconstituted Vaccines: Childhood and Adult at www.michigan.gov/immunize (this is included with the Quick Look handouts, listed under Provider Information)

² If you have questions about the condition of the vaccine at the time of delivery, immediately place the vaccine in recommended storage unit and contact the manufacturer. If you received Vaccines for Children (VFC) vaccine, contact your local health department.

³ MPSV4 & Zoster vaccines are not part of the VFC Program

Please NOTE: This reference is for storage and handling informational purposes only. These recommendations are not a substitute for the package insert included with each biologic.