



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 Outdated or improperly handled vaccines will not protect patients!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 Never use outdated vaccines.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 and rotate stock so that the shortest dated vaccine is used first.
2. Check and log temperatures in both the refrigerator and the freezer each morning and each evening.
3. Post "Do Not Unplug" signs at the wall outlet & circuit breaker. Develop an emergency plan and keep a cooler nearby to move the vaccines, if needed.
4. Keep vaccine in the original boxes until it is time to use it. Never store vaccines in refrigerator door or drawers. Never store food with the vaccines.
5. When transporting vaccines, use insulated containers and ice packs. Vaccine should not touch ice packs. Transporting varicella, MMRV and zoster*** vaccines is not recommended. Contact the manufacturer, the local health department, or the Michigan Department of Community Health for guidance.
6. Always reconstitute vaccine with the diluent supplied by the manufacturer.

VACCINE	ARRIVAL CONDITION**	STORAGE REQUIREMENTS
DTaP, DTaP-Hib*, DTaP-IPV-Hep B, DTaP-IPV, DTaP-IPV-Hib*, DT, Td, Tdap, Hep B-Hib, Hib*, Hep A-Hep B (combination), Hep A, Hep B, HPV2, HPV4, IPV, MPSV4(*)***, MCV4, 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 MCV4, HPV4 and HPV2 from light. Store DTaP-IPV-Hib (Pentacel®) vaccine and diluent together in the refrigerator only
Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)	Packed with refrigerant. Vaccine should NOT have been frozen. NOTE: Private stock vaccine will arrive 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*-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. RV1 diluent: Store separately at room temperature or in the refrigerator Protect both rotavirus vaccines from light.
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)*	<u>VFC Vaccine shipped from McKesson:</u> Packed with refrigerant. During shipment vaccine must be maintained at 50°F (10°C) or less. May be frozen. <u>Vaccine shipped directly from Merck:</u> Packed with non-reusable frozen gel packs (good for 72 hours) Note: Do not transport on dry ice (-109°F)	Vaccine: Refrigerate or freeze immediately upon arrival at 35° to 46°F (2° to 8°C) or less. Diluent: Store separately at room temperature or in the refrigerator. Protect MMR from light at all times.
Varicella* Zoster* (Zostavax®)*** Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Varicella* (MMRV)	Packed with non-reusable frozen gel packs (good for 72 hours). NOTE: Do not transport on dry ice (-109°F)	Vaccine: Maintain continuously in a frozen state at average temperature -58°F to +5°F (-50°C to -15°C) Diluent: Store separately at room temperature or in the refrigerator. Protect from light before reconstitution.

* Use only the diluent supplied to reconstitute the vaccine.

** If you have questions about the condition of the vaccine at the time of delivery, immediately place the vaccine in recommended storage and contact your local health department if you received the vaccine from the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. If you received the vaccine directly from the manufacturer, call the manufacturer for assistance.

*** 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.