

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 Outdated or improperly handled vaccines will not protect patients!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 help you ensure that the vaccines you administer are potent, pure 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 Never use outdated vaccines.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. Keep a cooler nearby to move the vaccines, if needed.
4. 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.

VACCINE	ARRIVAL CONDITION	STORAGE REQUIREMENTS
DTaP, DTaP-Hib*, DTaP-Hep B-IPV, DT, Td, Tdap, Hep B-Hib, Hib*, Hepatitis A & B, HPV4, Influenza, IPV, Meningococcal Conjugate (MCV4), Pneumococcal Polysaccharide (PPV23), and Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV7)	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 from light.
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)*	Packed with refrigerant. During shipment vaccine must be maintained at 50°F (10°C) or less. May be frozen.**	Vaccine: Refrigerate or freeze immediately upon arrival at 35° to 46°F (2° to 8°C) or colder. Protect MMR from light at all times. Diluent: Store separately at room temperature or in the refrigerator.
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 (ROTA)	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 Rota from light.
Varicella (VAR),* MMRV* Zoster (Zostavax®)***	Packed with dry ice. During shipment vaccine must be maintained at -4°F (-20°C) or colder. There must be evidence of dry ice in the package.**	Vaccine: Maintain continuously in a frozen state at an average temperature of 5°F (-15°C) or colder Protect MMRV from light at all times. Protect Var & Zoster from light prior to reconstitution. Diluent: Store separately at room temperature or in the refrigerator.

*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 local health department. If you received the vaccine directly from the manufacturer, call the manufacturer for assistance. **PLEASE NOTE: These recommendations are not a substitute for the package insert included with each biologic.

*** Zoster (Zostavax®) vaccine is not available under the VFC (MI-VRP) Program. This reference is for storage and handling informational purposes only.