

# Vaccine Management: Storage and Handling



Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
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Director, Immunization Program

# Presenter Disclosure Information

- *I, Pejman Talebian, have been asked to disclose any significant relationships with commercial entities that are either providing financial support for this program or whose products or services are mentioned during my presentations.*
  - *I have no relationships to disclose.*
- *I may discuss the use of vaccines in a manner not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.*
  - *But in accordance with ACIP recommendations.*

# Learning Objectives

- Summarize principles of vaccine management
- Describe current vaccine storage and handling recommendations
- Describe preventative measures to maintain refrigerator and freezer temperatures
- Discover a new tool to monitor vaccine temperatures
- List steps to protect vaccine in the event of a power outage or emergency

# Why is Vaccine Storage & Handling important?

*“Proper vaccine storage and handling practices play a very important role in **protecting individuals and communities from vaccine-preventable diseases.***

*Vaccine quality is the **shared responsibility of everyone**, from the time vaccine is manufactured until it is administered.” -CDC*

- Proper storage and handling of vaccines protect public health and have contributed to the decrease of vaccine-preventable disease rates
- Storage and handling errors
  - Decrease potency and reduce effectiveness and protection
  - Cost thousands of dollars in wasted vaccine and revaccination
  - Loss of patient confidence

# Guidelines for Compliance

Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
Division of Epidemiology and Immunization  
Vaccines for Children Program (VFC)  
**2017 Guidelines for Compliance with  
Federal and State Vaccine Administration Requirements**

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The following requirements regarding vaccine storage and handling, administration, documentation, reporting and information are in accordance with Section 317 of the Public Health Service Act, federal vaccine contract terms, the specifications of the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (NCVIA) of 1986 (Section 2125, of the Public Health Service Act), the Vaccines for Children Program (VFC) (Section 1928 of the Social Security Act) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) Immunization Program.

**A. Appropriate Use of State-supplied Vaccine**

A-1. Providers must use state-supplied vaccine only for children and adults determined eligible as defined in the most recent versions of the Childhood Vaccine Availability Table, the Adult Vaccine Availability Table and the Summary of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommended Groups for Vaccination (available on the MDPH Immunization Program website <http://www.mass.gov/dph/imm>, select "Vaccine Management.")

A-2. VFC-only vaccines (see Childhood Vaccine Availability Table) must be offered only to VFC-eligible children. Children < 19 years of age in the following categories are eligible for VFC vaccine:

- Enrolled in Medicaid, or
- Without health insurance, or
- American Indian (Native American) or Alaska Native, or
- Underinsured children (insurance coverage does not include vaccines or covers only selected vaccines) seen at federally qualified health centers (FQHC) and rural health centers (RHC).

- All vaccine storage and handling and VFC requirements and recommendations are detailed in the Guidelines for Compliance with Federal and State Vaccine Administration Requirements.
- Available on our website: [www.mass.gov/dph/imm](http://www.mass.gov/dph/imm) and click on 'Vaccine Management'

# MDPH Immunization Program Website

## www.mass.gov/dph/imm

### Immunization Program

MIIS

The Immunization Program is committed to promoting the health of all citizens by reducing the burden of vaccine preventable diseases of the Commonwealth. The mission of the program is to ensure that all individuals are fully immunized in a timely manner.

The Immunization Program develops strategies to ensure that all children in the Commonwealth are appropriately immunized and that the program is responsible for a variety of wide-ranging functions including: vaccine management, distribution and quality assurance; administration of the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program; analysis of the immunization rate data; development of tools, including the National Immunization Survey Behavior Change (NIS-BC) System, and Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS); identification of immunization disparities; ongoing close collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); hepatitis B prevention and control; information, education and community outreach; vaccine safety surveillance and control; outbreak response; pandemic preparedness; and development and implementation of state-wide immunization strategies.

[Advisories and Alerts](#)

[Guidelines and Schedules](#)

[Massachusetts Immunization Information System](#)

[Model Standing Orders](#)

[School Immunizations](#)

[Vaccine Management](#)

[Vaccine Preventable Diseases](#)

### Vaccine Management

#### Vaccine Management Guidelines and Forms

- [Adult Vaccine Availability Table](#)
- [Agreement to Comply with Federal and State Requirements For Participation in the MDPH Immunization Program](#)
- [CDC Vaccine Information Statements](#)
- [Childhood Vaccine Availability Table](#)
- [Enrollment 2016 Cover Letter](#)
- [Guidelines for Compliance with Federal Vaccine Administration Requirements 2016](#)
- [Pharmaceutical Grade Refrigerator Requirements – 2016](#)
- [National Vaccine Injury Table \(HRSA\)](#)
- [New Restitution Policy, Effective January 1, 2016](#)
- [Patient Eligibility Screening Form for Federally Qualified Health Centers](#)
- [Patient Eligibility Screening Form](#)
- [Standards for Child and Adolescent Immunization Practices \(Pediatrics\)](#)
- [Vaccine Management SOP](#)
- [Vaccine Order Form](#)
- [Vaccine Return Request Form](#)
- [Vaccine Usage Aggregate Report](#)
- [VFC Eligibility Screen within an EHR](#)
- [VFC Vaccine Borrowing Report](#)
- [VFC Compliance Training Webinar](#)
- [What NOT to Return to McKesson](#)

#### Temperature Log and Data Logger Information

- [Fridge Tag 2L Data Logger Infographic](#)
- [Temperature Scale Conversion Chart](#)
- [Quick Reference Guide-Fridge Tag 2 Data Logger](#)
- [Vaccine Freezer Temperature Log](#)
- [Vaccine Refrigerator Temperature Log](#)
- [Temperature Troubleshooting Record](#)



# CDC Storage and Handling

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/>

## Vaccines and Immunizations

Vaccines Home  
**Vaccines & Immunizations**

### Vaccines and Immunizations Home

Immunization Schedules

Recommendations and Guidelines

Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

#### ► Vaccine Storage & Handling

Vaccine Administration

Reminder Systems and Strategies for Increasing Vaccination Rates

Vaccines & Preventable Diseases

Basics and Common Questions

Vaccination Records

Vaccine Safety and Adverse Events

For Travelers

For Specific Groups of People

[Vaccines and Immunizations Home](#) > [Recommendations and Guidelines](#)



## Vaccine Storage and Handling Recommendations and Guidelines

### At a Glance

Proper vaccine storage and handling practices play a very important role in protecting individuals and communities from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Vaccine quality is the shared responsibility of everyone, from the time vaccine is manufactured until it is administered.



### Resources on Proper Vaccine Storage and Handling

- [Keys to Storing and Handling Your Vaccine Supply](#) is a video designed to decrease vaccine storage and handling errors and preserve the nation's vaccine supply by demonstrating to immunization providers the recommended best practices for storage and handling of vaccines. (Video is a winner of the Winter/Spring 2014 Web Health Award) May 2014
- These storage and handling fact sheets illustrate best practices for both refrigerated and frozen vaccines. Written in plain language, they include assessments to reinforce key points. While they are CDC-developed and branded fact sheets, each contains an area where you can

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[What's this?](#)

**CDC Medscape**  
From **MMWR**

Dr. Andrew Kroger  
Director of Immunization, CDC

*Running Time: 5:07 mins  
Date Released: 06/27/2011*  
**CDC Commentary -  
Make No Mistake:  
Vaccine  
Administration,  
Storage, and  
Handling**

Dr. Andrew Kroger offers 7 steps to help prevent vaccine administration errors

# Vaccine Management

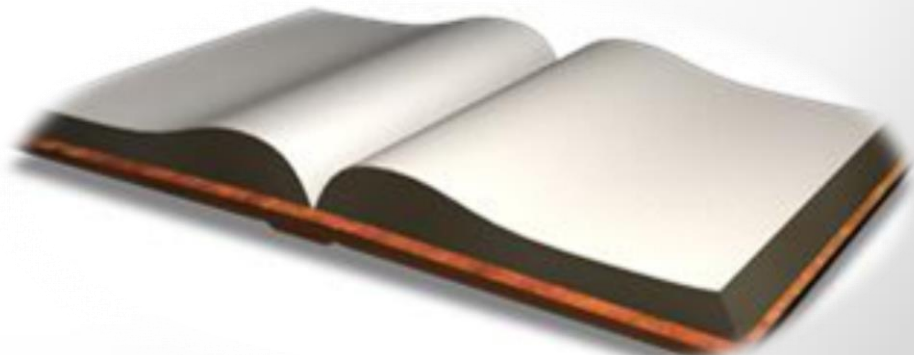
- Each provider should designate one staff member to be the Vaccine Coordinator and one back up person who is able to perform the same responsibilities.
- The Vaccine Coordinator must train other staff responsible for managing the vaccine supply.





# Vaccine Management Plans

- Providers should have written vaccine management standard operating procedures (SOP) which are reviewed or updated annually or when there is any change or a new Vaccine Coordinator.
- All staff who are responsible for handling or administering vaccines must acknowledge reading the practice's SOP by signing and dating the document.



# Components of Vaccine Management Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

- Proper storage and handling of vaccines
- Vaccine receiving
- Procedure for vaccine relocation in the event of power or equipment failure
- Vaccine ordering and inventory control
- Handling damaged or expired vaccines
- Protocols for response when vaccine is stored out of temperature range
- A sample copy of MDPH's SOP for Vaccine Management can be found on our website

# Updating SOP

- Update SOP with any changes.
  - Have all staff who handle or administer vaccines read the updated SOP and sign and date the last page.
  - Post the SOP on the vaccine refrigerator.
  - Have any new staff member read and sign the SOP as part of their training.

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Vaccine Management DPH/ PEDIATRICS Please Post on or near your vaccine storage units. Please fill in appropriate response where		ALL STAFF WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING VACCINES OR WHO MAY BE REQUIRED TO TRANSPORT VACCINE IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION MUST READ THE SOP FOR VACCINE MANAGEMENT, SIGN AND DATE THIS DOCUMENT																								
<p><b>Purpose:</b> To ensure the safe storage and handling of vaccines in order to maintain optimum pot</p> <p><b>SARA SMITH</b> is the Primary Vaccine Coordinator and will be responsible for oversight of all va storage and handling.</p> <p><b>MARIA WEST</b> is the Backup Vaccine Coordinator.</p> <p><b>Notify the Vaccine Unit within 10 days if a new Primary Vaccine Coordinator or Backup is ident</b></p> <p><b>Emergency storage location:</b> (Indicate address, phone number and contact person(s) here) HOSPITAL ABL - LEMANS STREET, ANYTOWNS, MA 617-555-5555 CONTACT: JOSEPH THOMAS</p> <p><b>Vaccine Ordering and Inventory Control</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Primary Vaccine Coordinator will place vaccine orders through the MIS Vaccine Management Mo</li> <li>The Primary Vaccine Coordinator will complete a physical inventory of all vaccines in the refriger</li> <li>Orders should be placed when vaccine inventories reach about a 4 week supply.</li> <li>Establish a routine to order no more than once per month.</li> <li>Vaccines will be delivered directly to this provider's office based on shipping information given by</li> <li>Contact the Vaccine Management Unit @ (617) 983-6828 to update any changes in shipping address</li> <li>Transfer short dated vaccines to another pediatric provider 2-3 months prior to expiration. Document</li> </ul> <p><b>Documentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enroll annually in the MDPI Immunization Program Vaccines for Children (VFC) program by co</li> <li>The Primary Vaccine Coordinator will review and update the SOP annually and when any changes</li> <li>Retain a record of vaccines received or transferred, including type of vaccine, manufacturer, lot nu</li> <li>Maintain temperature logs for a minimum of 3 years. Only if EXACT temperature log is uploaded</li> <li>MIS, there is no need to retain paper copies.</li> <li>Offer the appropriate Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) with each dose of vaccine administered</li> <li>Record vaccine administration information in the patient's chart including administration date, typ</li> <li>Report all site-supplied doses administered in the MIS Vaccine Management Module with each v</li> </ul> <p><b>Vaccine Receiving</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that all staff that receives shipments (front office, loading dock, reception, etc.) are aware of</li> <li>Upon arrival at your site, open box of vaccines immediately. Check the two transit temperature in</li> <li>For direct ship vaccines from Merck, check the shipment date located on the packing list</li> </ul>		<p>be counted and compared with packing list and original order making sure the order and deliv</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that all containers noted on the packing list have been delivered.</li> <li>Once an inventory is completed, the vaccine is immediately placed in the refrigerator/freezer</li> <li>If there are any concerns or inaccuracies with the vaccine order the Primary Vaccine Coordin</li> </ul> <p><b>Vaccine Storage</b></p> <p><b>DO NOT STORE ANY VACCINE IN A DORM STYLE UNIT WITH AN INTERNAL COMPARTMENT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All refrigerators designated for vaccine storage will be set to maintain the proper tem</li> <li>Vaccines and MMRV vaccine must be stored in a stand-alone freezer that maintains a temper</li> <li>The Primary Vaccine Coordinator will rotate stock ensuring that short-dated vaccine is used fi</li> <li>Inventory will be clearly marked or identified to differentiate state-supplied and privately pur</li> <li>Place the digital data logger probe in a central area of the refrigerator and freezer unit, adjac</li> <li>Food or beverages should not be stored in the vaccine storage units.</li> <li>Vaccines should be stored centrally in the refrigerator or freezer, not on the door or on the bot</li> <li>Vaccine should not be stored on the top shelf of a household refrigerator.</li> <li>Stabilize refrigerator temperatures by placing water bottles where vaccine should not be store</li> <li>Stabilize refrigerator temperatures by placing water bottles where vaccine should not be store</li> <li>Stabilize refrigerator temperatures by placing freezer packs on the door and any where there is con</li> <li>Refrigeration unit must be plugged directly into a wall outlet. Never plug into a power strip, e</li> </ul> <p><b>Temperature Monitoring</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refrigerator/freezer daily minimum and maximum range temperatures will be monitored and</li> <li>The Primary Vaccine Coordinator must review temperature logs or digital data logger digital</li> </ul> <p><b>Temperature Out of Range</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any out of range temperatures should prompt immediate action by contacting the MDPI Vac</li> <li>When a problem is discovered, the exposed vaccine is r</li> </ul>																								
<p><b>Power Failure/Refrigerator Failure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the event of an extended building power failure or refrigerator failure, vaccines will be</li> <li>The Primary Vaccine Coordinator will review and update the practice emergency plan o</li> </ul> <p><b>Vaccine Transportation Procedures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain and store an adequate number/amount of appropriate packing containers and mat</li> <li>Use separate packing containers for vaccines required to be refrigerated and vaccines re</li> <li>Refrigerated gel packs should be placed in the container used to transport refrigerat</li> <li>Place a calibrated thermometer in each packing container near the vaccine to monitor th</li> <li>Record the time and temperature when vaccine was removed from the storage units and</li> <li>Transport of vaccines is considered a temperature excursion</li> <li>For vaccines requiring refrigeration, please contact the MDPI Vaccine Management</li> <li>For vaccines requiring freezing (varicella, MMRV), please contact the manufactur</li> <li>Do not discard vaccine without contacting the Vaccine Management Unit for guidance.</li> <li>You are strongly urged to contact the Vaccine Management Unit at 617-983-6828 when</li> </ul> <p><b>Vaccine Returners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All vaccines that cannot be used due to expiration or exposure to unsafe temperatures in</li> <li>Loss of efficacy due to exposure can only be determined by Vaccine Management U</li> <li>The Primary Vaccine Coordinator will file completed Exposed/Damaged Vaccine Return</li> <li>approved form and McKesson will arrange pick-up of returned vaccine.</li> <li>Pack vaccine in a box with the return form and a return label will either be e-mailed or t</li> </ul>		<p>(Name and title of preparer) <b>SARA SMITH, RN</b>      Review Date: <b>1/2/2016</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Employee Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1/4/2016</td> <td>SARA SMITH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1/4/2016</td> <td>MICHAEL SHAW</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1/4/2016</td> <td>MIA RUTZ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1/5/2016</td> <td>CORAL CASEY</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1/5/2016</td> <td>THOMAS TAYLOR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3/28/2016</td> <td>GRACE ROGERS</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Staff Training on VFC Requirements for Vaccine Coordinator and Back-Up Vaccine Coordinator, including proper vaccine storage and handling for 2015</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Employee Name</th> <th>Training Type</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5/11/2015</td> <td>Sarah South</td> <td>Immunization Update</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5/11/2015</td> <td>Mia Rutz</td> <td>Immunization Update</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Date	Employee Name	1/4/2016	SARA SMITH	1/4/2016	MICHAEL SHAW	1/4/2016	MIA RUTZ	1/5/2016	CORAL CASEY	1/5/2016	THOMAS TAYLOR	3/28/2016	GRACE ROGERS	Date	Employee Name	Training Type	5/11/2015	Sarah South	Immunization Update	5/11/2015	Mia Rutz	Immunization Update
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<p><b>Staff Training/Provider education requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Primary Vaccine Coordinator and the Backup Vaccine Coordinator will participate</li> <li>Confidence, or on-site training by a MDPI staff. Certificates will be given after e</li> </ul>		<p>Staff Training on VFC Requirements for Vaccine Coordinator and Back-Up Vaccine Coordinator, including proper vaccine storage and handling for 2015</p>																								

# Vaccine Coordinator Responsibilities

- Order vaccine and oversee inventory
- Receive vaccine and refrigerate/freeze immediately
- Provide proper storage and handling
- Handle damaged, wasted and expired vaccine
- Respond when vaccine is out of required temperature range
  - If have state-supplied vaccines contact MDPH Vaccine Unit to determine if vaccine has been damaged (617-983-6828)
  - If only have private purchase vaccines contract the vaccine manufacturer directly

# Vaccine Inventory Management

- Limit access to authorized personnel
- Order vaccines regularly, do not stockpile
- Organize vaccine with shortest shelf life in front
- Conduct and log vaccine inventory monthly
- Rotate vaccines and monitor expiration dates

# Receiving Vaccine

- Examine shipment immediately upon arrival
- If problems (for state-supplied vaccines), report to MDPH within two hours
- Check contents against packing slip
- Check vaccine expiration dates
- Examine contents for damage
- Check temperature monitor
- Immediately place in appropriate storage
- Keep a shipping box on hand to use when returning any damaged or expired vaccine

# Vaccine Storage

- Maintain refrigerator temperature between 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F).
- Maintain freezer temperature between -50°C and -15°C (-58°F and +5°F) for Varivax, ProQuad, and Zostavax vaccines.
- Place temperature data logger in a central area of the storage unit, adjacent to the vaccines and away from any air vents.

# Common Adult Vaccines

## Refrigerator

- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)
- Meningococcal Conjugate (MCV4)
- Meningococcal Group B
- Pneumococcal Conjugate
- Pneumococcal Polysaccharide
- Tetanus and Diphtheria (Td)
- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Acellular Pertussis (Tdap)

## Freezer

- Varicella
- Zoster
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)



# Vaccine Storage Units

- CDC and MDPH strongly recommend stand alone refrigerators and stand alone freezers.
- MDPH now requires a pharmacy grade refrigerator for all sites that administer vaccines to children and highly recommends for all practices.
- A stand alone freezer that can maintain the proper temperatures is acceptable.

# Pharmaceutical Grade Refrigerator

- Although there is no clear description of a pharmaceutical refrigerator, we have identified the following characteristics:
  - Internal fans to disperse cold air throughout the unit, eliminating cold pockets of air
  - Wire racks to allow better air flow
  - No storage bins, or shelves on door
  - Typically, pharmaceutical grade refrigerators have a narrow operating range (less than 2 degrees C or 3 degrees F)

# Loading Vaccines

- Keep vaccines in original manufacturer packaging
  - Don't remove individual vials from cardboard boxes
- Place vaccine boxes in trays
- Organize vaccines by type, state/private, to facilitate quick retrieval and minimize time with refrigerator door open
- Avoid over-filling refrigerator and hindering air circulation
  - Do not store vaccines on the bottom shelf or near vents



# Stabilize Your Refrigerator

Stabilize your refrigerator temperatures by placing water bottles where vaccine should not be stored (on bottom shelf)



Store cold packs in the refrigerator as part of emergency preparedness, in case you need to transport vaccine during an emergency.

# Unacceptable Vaccine Storage



# Unacceptable Vaccine Storage



# Monitor Temperatures

- Record temperatures twice daily
  - First thing in the morning
  - End of the work day
  - Temperature logs must be retained for at least 3 years
  - Monitor for out-of-range temperatures
- Place temperature logs on front of unit

# Appropriate Temperature Monitoring & Documentation

- NIST certified calibrated digital data loggers for continuous 24-hour temperature monitoring for **all** vaccine storage units at all pediatric providers (any site that administers vaccines to those <19 years of age) is now required by MDPH and is strongly recommended for all adult providers.
- These data loggers should have a biosafe glycol-encased detachable temperature probe.
- The data logger must record the minimum and maximum temperature each day.
- Providers must still physically acknowledge the high/low temperatures at least twice daily.



# Appropriate Temperature Monitoring & Documentation

- Immediate action must be taken if temperatures are out of range.
- For state-supplied vaccines, report all vaccine storage issues, including temperature excursions, to:
  - Vaccine Management Unit at 617-983-6828.
- For privately purchased vaccines, contact each manufacturer to determine if you can continue to administer their vaccine.

# Data Loggers

- Come in all shapes and sizes
- Must be NIST certified
- Able to measure product temperature with a detachable probe



# MDPH Has Provided Fridge-tag2L<sup>®</sup> Logger to All Pediatric Providers

- NIST certified
- No software required; easy to install and use
  - Simple YouTube instructional videos
- All pediatric practices have received them for all their vaccine storage units
  - All practices can purchase units at state pricing

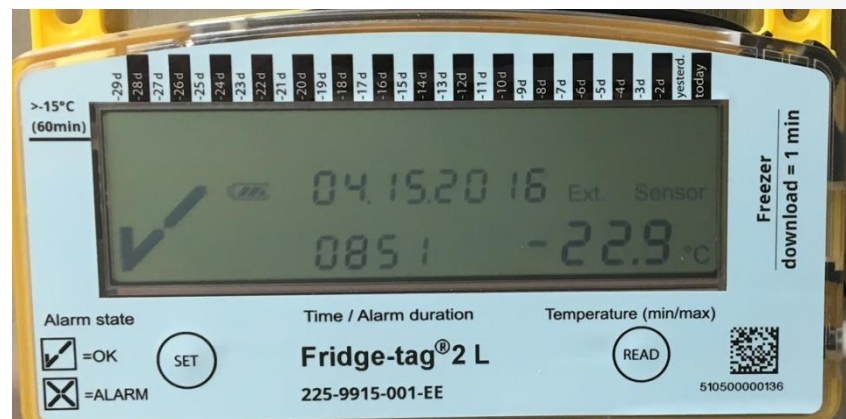


# Fridge-tag 2L<sup>®</sup> Loggers

## Refrigerator



## Freezer



# Calibration reports

## Refrigerator

## Freezer





Accreditation No.: 69071  
to ISO/IEC 17025:2005

### PRECISION DIGITAL THERMOMETER CALIBRATION REPORT

**Customer** MA Dept of Public Health 305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Standard Temperature	Temp Reading	Correction +/-	In Tolerance
4.0	4	0	Pass

**INSTRUMENT INFORMATION**

Calibration Date: 01/15/2016      Calibration Due Date: 01/15/2019

Serial No.: 51050000127 0014      Report No.: MAS091

Model No.: FridgeTag 2L

Range: -30/50      Divisions: 0.1°      Scale: °C

Expanded Uncertainty: ± 0.050

\* If the sign given is + the true temperature is higher than the indicated temperature.  
If the sign given is - the true temperature is lower than the indicated temperature.

**Test Reference Documents**  
ASTM E844-09 Revised Test Method 6.2 1 Volume 14.03.2011  
NIST Technical Note 1265, Guidelines for Realizing the International Temperature Scale of 1990 (ITS-90).

NIST Traceable Equipment Used to Perform Testing:	Manufacturer	Description	Model Number	Serial Numbers	Calibration Date	Calibration Due Date
Fluke Hart Scientific	Black Stack PRT Scanner Module	2062	A56955	12/10/2015	12/10/2016	
Burns	150ohm PRT Probe	5626-15	3543	12/10/2015	12/10/2016	
-	-	-	1066	12/10/2015	12/10/2016	
-	-	-	1095	12/10/2015	12/10/2016	
-	-	-	850988	12/10/2015	12/10/2016	
-	-	-	853277	12/10/2015	12/10/2016	

**Laboratory Environmental Conditions:**

Temperature	Humidity	Onsite Calibration
23°C +/- 5°C	40% - 60%	Yes

**Thermometer Integrity:**  
Complete visual inspection for any physical damage.

**Calibration Procedure Used:**  
The NIST traceable calibration instruments listed were used to calibrate the described thermometer listed above against the NIST traceable reference standards in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025 calibration procedures at the noted test temperatures by a comparison method.  
The standards used have been certified by an ISO/IEC 17025 A2LA accredited calibration laboratory.  
The calibration results published in this certificate were obtained using equipment capable of producing results that are traceable to NIST and through NIST to the International System of Units (SI). The uncertainty of measurement associated with the measurement result reported in this certificate is available from ThermoCo Products Inc. upon request and was accounted for in making the decision of compliance or noncompliance with the relevant specification identified above.  
The reported expanded uncertainty of measurement is stated as the combined standard uncertainty of measurement multiplied by the coverage factor k (k=2) such that the coverage probability corresponds to approximately 95 %.

**CALIBRATION TECHNICIAN:** John Williams      **CALIBRATION APPROVED BY:** Rick Casario

This certificate may not be reproduced without the express written approval of THERMOCO PRODUCTS, INC.      [www.ThermoCoProducts.com](http://www.ThermoCoProducts.com)      10 Milpond Drive Unit#10 Lafayette, NJ 07848      Phone 973.300.9100





Accreditation No.: 69071  
to ISO/IEC 17025:2005

### PRECISION DIGITAL THERMOMETER CALIBRATION REPORT

**Customer** MA Dept of Public Health 305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Standard Temperature	Temp Reading	Correction +/-	In Tolerance
-20.0	-20	0	Pass

**INSTRUMENT INFORMATION**

Calibration Date: 01/15/2016      Calibration Due Date: 01/15/2019

Serial No.: 510500000136      Report No.: MAS355

Model No.: FreezerTag 2L

Range: -30/55      Divisions: 0.1°      Scale: °C

Expanded Uncertainty: ± 0.050

\* If the sign given is + the true temperature is higher than the indicated temperature.  
If the sign given is - the true temperature is lower than the indicated temperature.

**Test Reference Documents**  
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Complete visual inspection for any physical damage.

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The standards used have been certified by an ISO/IEC 17025 A2LA accredited calibration laboratory.  
The calibration results published in this certificate were obtained using equipment capable of producing results that are traceable to NIST and through NIST to the International System of Units (SI). The uncertainty of measurement associated with the measurement result reported in this certificate is available from ThermoCo Products Inc. upon request and was accounted for in making the decision of compliance or noncompliance with the relevant specification identified above.  
The reported expanded uncertainty of measurement is stated as the combined standard uncertainty of measurement multiplied by the coverage factor k (k=2) such that the coverage probability corresponds to approximately 95 %.

**CALIBRATION TECHNICIAN:** John Williams      **CALIBRATION APPROVED BY:** Rick Casario

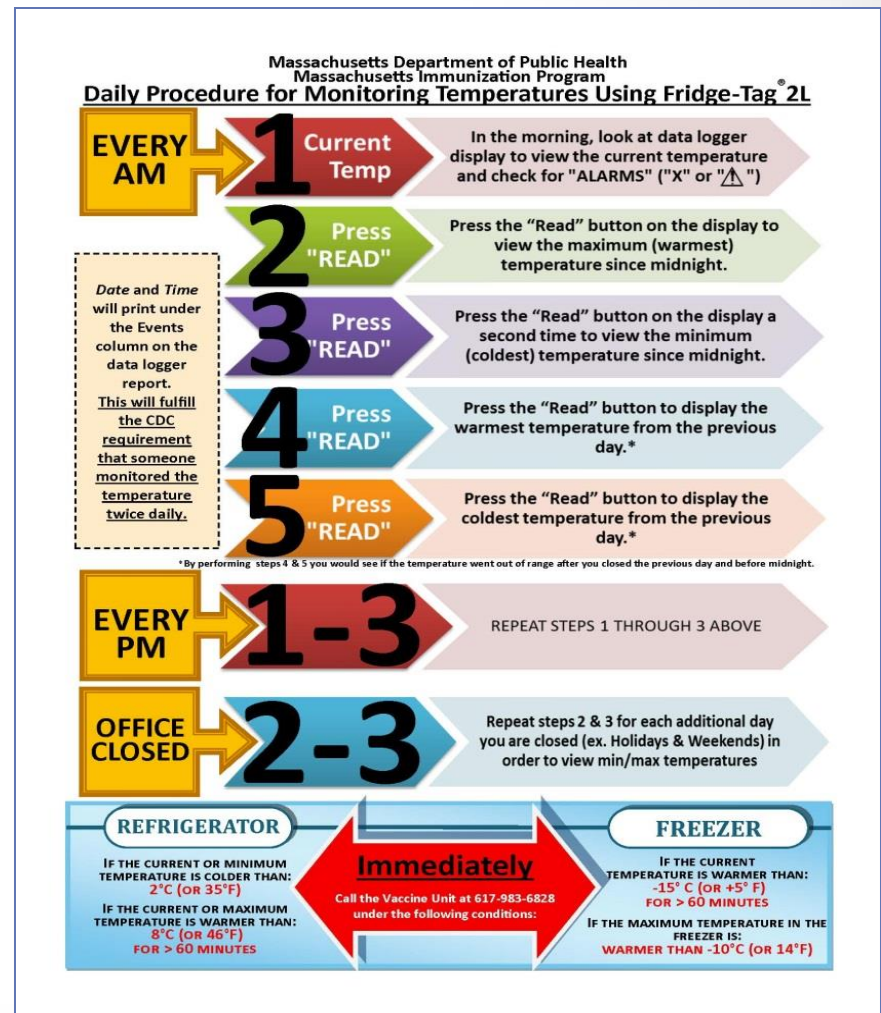
This certificate may not be reproduced without the express written approval of THERMOCO PRODUCTS, INC.      [www.ThermoCoProducts.com](http://www.ThermoCoProducts.com)      10 Milpond Drive Unit#10 Lafayette, NJ 07848      Phone 973.300.9100

# Closer Measurement of Vaccine Temperature

- Fridge-tag2L<sup>®</sup> Logger measures the temperature of a 5 ml glycol solution
- Most vaccines are 1 ml or less
- Minimum and maximum temperatures being measured more closely reflect the temperature of the vaccine and with more sensitivity to temperature fluctuations
- Traditional bottle thermometer measures the temperature of a 30 ml glycol solution

# Documenting Temperature

- With the Fridge-tag2L<sup>®</sup> you can document temperatures 2x/day, with the time and min/max temp by pressing the 'Read' button 2x/day
- Infographic on MDPH website [www.mass.gov/dph/imm](http://www.mass.gov/dph/imm) under 'Vaccine Management'



# Reviewing temp logs

Events - recorded Avg. Temp Lower Alarm Limit - Status Upper Alarm Limit - Status shows the 'Read' but average temperature status (ok or ALARM) status (ok or ALARM), the temperature be around limit (2°C), and the error limit (8°C), and the earliest time reviewed. There should be two times for each day the office is open.

No.	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Events <sup>2)</sup>	Average temp.	Lower alarm limit				Upper alarm limit			
				Status	Min. temp.	Cumulative daily time below the limit	Alarm trigger time	Status	Max. temp.	Cumulative daily time above the limit	Alarm trigger time
29	03/14/2016	05:48, 15:48	+4.5°C	ok	+4.3°C	0min		ok	+4.9°C	0min	
30	03/13/2016		+4.5°C	ok	+4.3°C	0min		ok	+4.9°C	0min	
31	03/12/2016		+4.5°C	ok	+4.3°C	0min		ok	+4.9°C	0min	
32	03/11/2016	08:32, 16:18	+4.5°C	ok	+4.3°C	0min		ok	+4.9°C	0min	
33	03/10/2016	08:45, 16:43	+4.5°C	ok	+4.3°C	0min		ok	+5.0°C	0min	
34	03/09/2016	08:45, 16:39	+4.5°C	ok	+4.3°C	0min		ok	+5.0°C	0min	
35	03/08/2016	08:38, 16:39	+4.6°C	ok	+4.3°C	0min		ok	+5.2°C	0min	
36	03/07/2016	08:40, 16:47	+4.8°C	ok	+4.3°C	0min		ok	+5.1°C	0min	
22	03/21/2016	06:42	+4.4°C	ok	+4.1°C	0min		ok	+5.0°C	0min	
23	03/20/2016		+4.4°C	ok	+4.1°C	0min		ok	+5.0°C	0min	
24	03/19/2016		+4.4°C	ok	+4.1°C	0min		ok	+5.1°C	0min	
25	03/18/2016	05:53, 15:13	+4.4°C	ok	+4.1°C	0min		ok	+5.1°C	0min	
26	03/17/2016	05:49, 15:43	+4.4°C	ok	+4.0°C	0min		ok	+5.1°C	0min	
27	03/16/2016	05:41, 15:33	+4.5°C	ok	+4.1°C	0min		ok	+5.2°C	0min	
28	03/15/2016	05:48, 15:39	+4.5°C	ok	+4.3°C	0min		ok	+5.0°C	0min	

1) Sampling and data analysis every minute

2) 1 - time / date changed, hh:mm - status checked



# Freeze

# Example #1

the frequency of duration out of

Upper alarm limit				
Status	Max. temp.	Duration out of range	Alarm trigger time	Alarm ambient temp.
ok	-25.4°C	0min		
ok	-25.4°C	0min		
ALARM!	-10.7°C	6h 7min	01:14h	+13.6°C
ALARM!	-10.5°C	8h 39min	01:38h	+13.0°C
ALARM!	-11.0°C	9h 34min	01:48h	+14.1°C
ALARM!	-10.7°C	11h 19min	00:15h	+13.6°C
ALARM!	-10.5°C	10h 13min	00:54h	+13.7°C
ok	-12.1°C	7h 18min		
ok	-12.6°C	4h 48min		
ALARM!	-11.0°C	7h 5min	03:58h	+14.4°C
ALARM!	-11.5°C	5h 59min	08:14h	+13.9°C
ALARM!	-11.0°C	6h 42min	00:27h	+14.1°C
ALARM!	-10.4°C	11h 13min	00:00h	+13.6°C
ALARM!	-10.5°C	11h 9min	00:20h	+14.3°C
ALARM!	-11.3°C	8h 35min	02:20h	+13.8°C
ALARM!	-10.6°C	8h 31min	02:45h	+13.5°C
ALARM!	-10.3°C	7h 25min	00:00h	+14.1°C
ALARM!	-10.2°C	9h 26min	00:56h	+13.4°C
ALARM!	-9.6°C	9h 20min	01:08h	+13.0°C
ALARM!	-9.3°C	12h 15min	02:14h	+12.9°C
ALARM!	-9.2°C	13h 17min	00:00h	+13.1°C
ALARM!	-9.3°C	11h 58min	00:00h	+13.0°C
ALARM!	-9.3°C	11h 25min	00:18h	+13.1°C
ALARM!	-8.9°C	11h 22min	00:00h	+12.9°C
ALARM!	-9.7°C	10h 47min	00:25h	+13.8°C
ALARM!	-10.2°C	9h 25min	01:51h	+13.1°C
ALARM!	-10.2°C	11h 58min	00:11h	+13.3°C
ALARM!	-10.3°C	11h 55min	01:25h	+13.4°C
ALARM!	-10.4°C	10h 30min	04:18h	+13.1°C
ALARM!	-9.9°C	8h 11min	00:00h	+13.6°C



No.	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Events*	Average temp.	Lower Status	Ext. sensor connection error				
					Alarm ambient mp.	Status	Duration	Alarm trigger time	Signature / notes Action taken
31	02/12/2016		-25.7°C	ok		ok	0min		
32	02/11/2016		-25.7°C	ok		ok	0min		
33	02/10/2016		-19.3°C	ok	13.6°C	ok	0min		
34	02/09/2016		-16.0°C	ok	13.0°C	ok	0min		
35	02/08/2016		-15.8°C	ok	14.1°C	ok	0min		
36	02/07/2016		-15.2°C	ok	13.6°C	ok	0min		
37	02/06/2016		-15.5°C	ok	13.7°C	ok	0min		
38	02/05/2016		-16.4°C	ok		ok	0min		
39	02/04/2016		-17.2°C	ok		ok	0min		
40	02/03/2016		-16.5°C	ok	14.4°C	ok	0min		
41	02/02/2016		-16.9°C	ok	13.9°C	ok	0min		
42	02/01/2016		-16.6°C	ok	14.1°C	ok	0min		
43	01/31/2016		-15.2°C	ok	13.8°C	ok	0min		
44	01/30/2016		-15.3°C	ok	14.3°C	ok	0min		
45	01/29/2016		-16.2°C	ok	13.8°C	ok	0min		
46	01/28/2016		-16.1°C	ok	13.5°C	ok	0min		
47	01/27/2016		-16.3°C	ok	4.1°C	ok	0min		
48	01/26/2016		-15.8°C	ok	3.4°C	ok	0min		
49	01/25/2016		-15.5°C	ok	3.0°C	ok	0min		
50	01/24/2016		-14.7°C	ok	2.9°C	ok	0min		
51	01/23/2016		-14.4°C	ok	3.1°C	ok	0min		
52	01/22/2016		-14.9°C	ok	3.0°C	ok	0min		
53	01/21/2016		-15.1°C	ok	3.1°C	ok	0min		
54	01/20/2016		-15.1°C	ok	2.9°C	ok	0min		
55	01/19/2016		-15.4°C	ok	3.8°C	ok	0min		
56	01/18/2016		-15.9°C	ok	3.1°C	ok	0min		
57	01/17/2016		-16.0°C	ok	3.3°C	ok	0min		
58	01/16/2016		-15.0°C	ok	3.4°C	ok	0min		
59	01/15/2016		-15.5°C	ok	3.1°C	ok	0min		
60	01/14/2016		-16.1°C	ok	3.6°C	ok	0min		

# Fridge Tag Example #2

Upper Alarm Limit – shows ALARM, with a maximum temp of +11.4°C, with 3h 23min out of range with time 21:39h (9:39PM)

Upper alarm limit			
Status	Max. temp.	Cumulative daily time above the limit	Alarm trigger time
In progress	+4.7°C	0min	
ALARM	+16.2°C	12h 7min	00:00h
ALARM	+11.4°C	3h 23min	21:39h
ok	+6.6°C	0min	
ok	+10.4°C	26min	

Ext. sensor connection	
Status	Duration
In p	
ok	
ok	
ok	
ALARM	17min

Continues at Midnight for 12h 7m



# Fridge Tag Example #3

Upper Alarm Limit – shows ALARM, with a maximum temp of +11.5°C, with 4h 53min out of range with an alarm triggered time 20:19h (8:10PM)

No.	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Events*	Average temp.	Lower alarm limit				Upper alarm limit				Ext. sensor connection error			Signature / notes Action taken		
				Status	Min. temp.	Duration out of range	Alarm trigger time	Alarm ambient temp.	Status	Max. temp.	Duration out of range	Alarm trigger time	Alarm ambient temp.	Status		Duration	Alarm trigger time
31	01/31/2016		+5.3°C	ok	+4.8°C	0min				ok	+6.2°C	0min			ok	0min	
32	01/30/2016		+5.3°C	ok	+4.8°C	0min				ok	+6.1°C	0min			ok	0min	
33	01/29/2016	am	+5.5°C	ok	+4.6°C	0min				ok	+7.1°C	0min			ok	0min	
34	01/28/2016	am pm	+5.4°C	ok	+4.7°C	0min				ok	+6.8°C	0min			ok	0min	
			<b>ok</b>	<b>+8.0°C</b>	<b>0min</b>												
			<b>ok</b>	<b>+5.6°C</b>	<b>0min</b>												
			<b>ALARM</b>	<b>+11.5°C</b>	<b>12h 25min</b>	<b>00:00h</b>	<b>+22.6°C</b>										
			<b>ALARM</b>	<b>+11.5°C</b>	<b>4h 53min</b>	<b>20:10h</b>	<b>+22.1°C</b>										
			<b>ok</b>	<b>+6.6°C</b>	<b>0min</b>												
			<b>ok</b>	<b>+6.5°C</b>	<b>0min</b>												
56	01/06/2016	pm	+5.3°C	ok	+4.5°C	0min				ok	+6.5°C	0min			ok	0min	
57	01/05/2016	am	+5.5°C	ok	+4.5°C	0min				ok	+7.2°C	0min			ok	0min	
58	01/04/2016	am	+5.4°C	ok	+4.2°C	0min				ok	+7.1°C	0min			ok	0min	
59	01/03/2016		+4.7°C	ok	+4.0°C	0min				ok	+5.5°C	0min			ok	0min	
60	01/02/2016		+4.7°C	ok	+4.1°C	0min				ok	+5.5°C	0min			ok	0min	

Continues at Midnight for 12h 25m

# Fridge Tag Example #4

Upper Alarm Limit – shows ALARM, with a maximum temp of +13.0°C, with 30min out of range with an alarm triggered time 16:56h (4:56PM)

No.	Date (dd.MM.yyyy)	Events*	Average temp.	Lower alarm limit				Upper alarm limit				Ext. sensor connection error			Signature / notes		
				Status	Min. temp.	Duration out of range	Alarm trigger time	Alarm ambient temp.	Status	Max. temp.	Duration out of range	Alarm trigger time	Alarm ambient temp.	Status		Duration	Alarm trigger time
31	31.01.2016		+5.3°C	ok	+5.0°C	0min			ok	+5.7°C	0min			ok	0min		
32	30.01.2016		+5.3°C	ok	+5.0°C	0min			ok	+5.7°C	0min			ok	0min		
33	29.01.2016		+5.2°C	ok	+4.9°C	0min			ok	+5.8°C	0min			ok	0min		
34	28.01.2016		+5.2°C	ok	+4.8°C	0min			ok	+5.6°C	0min			ok	0min		
35	27.01.2016		+5.2°C	ok	+4.9°C	0min			ok	+6.2°C	0min			ok	0min		

ok	+5.8°C	0min		
<b>ALARM!</b>	+13.0°C	30min	16:56h	+27.3°C
ok	+5.6°C	0min		
ok	+5.5°C	0min		

53	09.01.2016		+5.2°C	ok	+5.0°C	0min			ok	+5.6°C	0min			ok	0min		
54	08.01.2016		+5.2°C	ok	+5.0°C	0min			ok	+6.2°C	0min			ok	0min		
55	07.01.2016		+5.2°C	ok	+5.0°C	0min			ok	+5.6°C	0min			ok	0min		
56	06.01.2016		+5.2°C	ok	+4.9°C	0min			ok	+5.6°C	0min			ok	0min		
57	05.01.2016		+5.2°C	ok	+5.0°C	0min			ok	+6.4°C	0min			ok	0min		
58	04.01.2016		+5.3°C	ok	+5.1°C	0min			ok	+6.2°C	0min			ok	0min		
59	03.01.2016		+5.5°C	ok	+5.2°C	0min			ok	+5.9°C	0min			ok	0min		
60	02.01.2016		+5.5°C	ok	+5.2°C	0min			ok	+5.9°C	0min			ok	0min		

# Documentation of excursion

- Best practice to use a sample 'Documentation of Temperature Troubleshooting' on MDPH website
- Keeps a record of temperature excursions available

## Documentation of Temperature Troubleshooting

Practice Name : DPH Pediatrics      PIN : 55555

Date and time of incident	Problem	Date, time, contact person spoken to at MDPH	Action Taken	Initials and date
5/4/2016 4:35pm	Maximum temps in freezer went to -8.7°C for over an hour and triggered an alarm.	5/4/2016 4:40pm Lois Ciccone	Shut freezer door and monitored temperature to ensure it returned to range. The temp returned to -15°C by 5:10pm. Per Lois at the Vaccine Unit, vaccines are ok to use.	SS 5/4/2016

# Temperature Adjustment

- If a refrigerator is running on the cold side, or is slowly becoming colder, you should take action
- Never adjust the refrigerator temperature control with vaccine in unit
- Remove vaccine to another refrigerator/freezer
- Adjust temperature of unit
- Wait until you have 3 successive readings one hour apart within range before returning vaccine to the unit

# Power Failure

- If you lose power for extended period, follow your emergency plan:
  - pack vaccine
  - transport to prearranged site
  - notify MDPH Vaccine Unit, if state-supplied
- When power returns:
  - do not adjust the temperature control in unit
  - allow unit to return to proper temperature range
  - return vaccine to unit

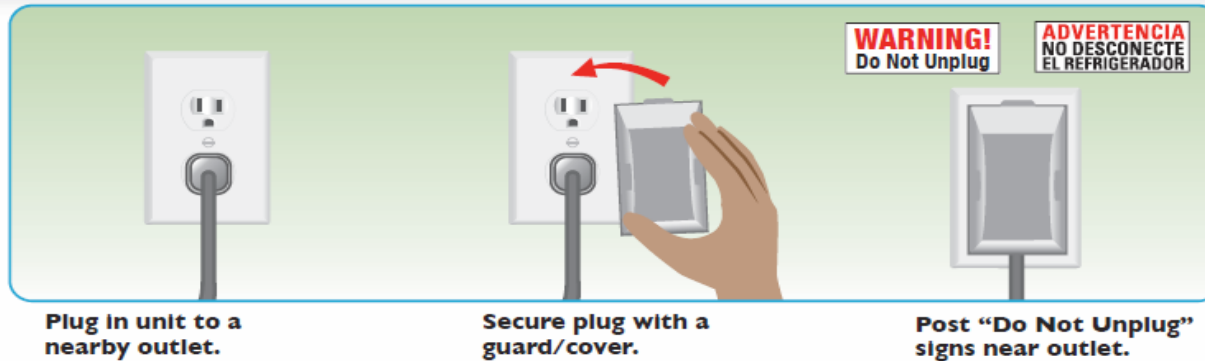
# Safeguard Power Supply

- Use a plug guard or safety-lock plug
- Place “Do Not Unplug” sign on storage unit, outlet and “Do Not Disconnect” on circuit breakers
- Consider installing a temperature alarm
- Do not use extension cords

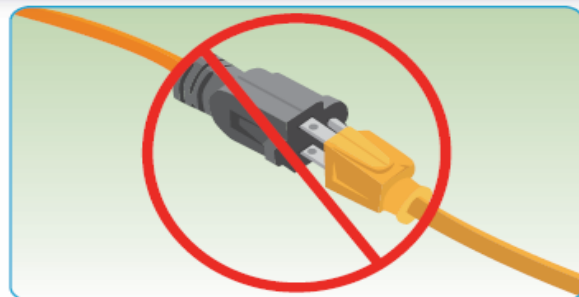


# Safeguard Power Supply

## Protect plug and outlet



## Always avoid disruption of power



Do not use extension cords.



Do not plug more than one appliance into an outlet. This will prevent tripping of circuit breakers.

# Safeguard Power Supply

The infographic is presented within a window titled 'IMM-967'. It features four safety instructions, each with a corresponding image or icon:

- Do not use extension cords.** Image: A white extension cord reel.
- Do not plug more than one appliance into an outlet. This will prevent tripping of circuit breakers.** Image: A yellow sign with a red circle and slash over a two-outlet power strip with a plug inserted, with the text 'DO NOT UNPLUG!' below it.
- Do not use outlets that are controlled by wall switches.** Image: A white wall switch next to a power outlet, with a dashed line connecting them and a red circle and slash over the outlet.
- Never unplug the vaccine refrigerator or freezer.** Image: A hand unplugging a cord from a power outlet, with a red circle and slash over the entire scene.

Additional text at the bottom of the infographic:

If you experience a power failure, do not open refrigerator/freezer doors. If it lasts more than 4-6 hours, call the VFC Program.  
• VFC Program Office (877) 243-8832      • VFC Field Representative [redacted]

[www.eziz.org](http://www.eziz.org)

California Department of Public Health Immunization Branch      IMM-967 (R/09)

# Vaccine Storage & Handling Questions

- MDPH Vaccine Management Unit  
(617) 983-6828
- MDPH Division of Epidemiology and Immunization  
(888) 658-2850  
(617) 983-6800 (24x7)
- Always consult with MDPH Immunization Program before removing improperly stored state-supplied vaccine from the storage unit
  - If the temperature of the vaccine goes out of range, either too high or too low, call the MDPH Vaccine Management Unit immediately!

# And thanks to you...

To all of the Medical Directors, Back-up Vaccine Coordinators, RNs, MAs, other office staff involved with immunizations at provider offices and, especially, to the Vaccine Coordinators,

Thank you for all you do to take care of vaccines and, in turn, take care of your patients and protect them from vaccine preventable diseases!



QUESTIONS?

Thank You !

