

# Vaccine Storage Quick Reference

**REMEMBER:** Improperly stored or outdated vaccines won't protect your patients!

- This reference includes vaccines approved or authorized in the United States. It does not include travel vaccines. For additional details, refer to vaccine package inserts ([www.immunize.org/official-guidance/fda/pkg-inserts](http://www.immunize.org/official-guidance/fda/pkg-inserts)).
- If you have a concern about the condition of any vaccine upon arrival or while it is in storage, **take action!** Follow the steps on Immunize.org's "Vaccine Storage Emergency Response Worksheet" and document the situation on the "Vaccine Storage Troubleshooting Record" (see *Additional Resources #1 and #2*).

## STORE VACCINES AT APPROPRIATE TEMPERATURES

### Refrigerator (most vaccines)

► **Maintain between 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) Aim for 5°C (41°F)**

- Any combination vaccine containing only refrigerated components listed below
- COVID-19 2024–2025 formulations:
  - Comirnaty (age 12+ yrs)
  - Novavax EUA
- Dengue (Dengvaxia)
- DTaP, Tdap, Td (all)
- Hepatitis A (all)
- Hepatitis B (all)
- *H. influenzae* type b (Hib, all)
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)
- Influenza (all)
- MMR (MMR II, Priorix)\*
- Meningococcal (all)
- Pneumococcal (all)
- Polio (IPV)
- Rabies (all)
- RSV (Arexvy, Abrysvo)
- RSV monoclonal antibody
- Rotavirus (all)
- Zoster/Shingles (Shingrix)

**Vaccine diluents:** All may be stored in the refrigerator; certain diluents may be stored at room temperature (see *Additional Resources #3*).

### Freezer

► **Maintain between -50°C and -15°C (-58°F and 5°F)**

- COVID-19 2024–2025 Moderna formulations
- MMR (MMR II only)\*
- MMRV
- Mpox (Jynneos)
- RSV (mResvia)
- Varicella

**Vaccine diluents:** Do not freeze.

### Ultra-Cold Freezer

► **Maintain between -90°C and -60°C (-130°F and -76°F)**

- COVID-19 2024–2025: Pfizer-BioNTech EUA (age 6 mos through 11 yrs)

### Special Cases

Certain vaccines may be frozen until their expiration date or may be stored in a refrigerator for several weeks before use. Once thawed, **DO NOT REFREEZE**.

**Refrigeration time** (use within allowable time or until expiration, whichever is first):

- COVID-19 2024–2025 formulations:
  - All Moderna formulations – up to 60 days in refrigerator
  - Pfizer-BioNTech EUA (age 6 mos through 11 yrs) – up to 10 weeks in refrigerator
- Mpox (Jynneos) – up to 8 weeks in refrigerator

\* MMR: MMR II (Merck) may be stored until expiration in a freezer or refrigerator. Store Priorix (GSK) only in the refrigerator.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### Immunize.org:

1. "Vaccine Storage Emergency Response Worksheet" – guidance for vaccines exposed to improper storage conditions, such as a power failure ([www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3051.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3051.pdf))
2. "Vaccine Storage Troubleshooting Record" – form to document an improper vaccine storage incident and actions taken to resolve it ([www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3041.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3041.pdf))
3. "Vaccines with Diluents: How to Use Them" ([www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3040.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3040.pdf))
4. Warning Sign: "Do Not Unplug Refrigerator or Freezer" ([www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2090.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2090.pdf))
5. Warning Sign: "Do Not Turn Off Circuit Breaker" ([www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2091.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2091.pdf))

### CDC:

6. "Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit" ([www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/storage-handling](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/storage-handling))
7. Resources for organizing and labeling vaccines in your storage units ([www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/guide/vaccine-storage-labels.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/guide/vaccine-storage-labels.pdf))

