

of the combination unit, it is important that you not store vaccines directly under the vent coming from the freezer and that you add water bottles to the refrigerator to absorb cold air blown in from the freezer. This will reduce the risk of vaccines becoming too cold.

What temperature is considered a temperature excursion on refrigerated vaccine? Frozen vaccine?

Any temperature readings outside the ranges noted below are considered temperature excursions.

- For refrigerated vaccines, the minimum temperature is 35° F (2° C), and the maximum is 46° F (8° C).
- For frozen vaccines, the minimum temperature is -58° F (-50° C), and the maximum is 5° F (-15° C).

If there is a question about whether a vaccine has been exposed to a temperature excursion, label the vaccines “DO NOT USE” and store them under appropriate conditions, separate from other vac-

Vaccinate Adults correction policy

If you find an error, please notify us immediately by sending an email message to admin@immunize.org. We publish notification of significant errors in our email announcement service, *IAC Express*. Be sure you're signed up for this service. To subscribe, visit www.immunize.org/subscribe.

cines. Then, contact the vaccine manufacturer for further guidance. If you are a VFC provider, contact either the vaccine manufacturer and/or your state or local immunization program as directed by the VFC Program in your area.

I keep hearing about changes to vaccine storage and handling recommendations. Why is CDC making these changes? And how can I make sure I am up to date with all the newest information?

Good questions! The why behind these changes has two parts. First, it had become increasingly apparent to CDC and state health departments that improper vaccine storage and handling is a big problem, leading to a huge waste of product, time, and money, and more importantly, to unprotected people. Second, improved technology (e.g., digital data loggers) provides tools that uncover and measure problems and also prevent them.

As far as how to keep up, on November 27, 2012, CDC released its updated *Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit* at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/toolkit/storage-handling-toolkit.pdf and posted it on CDC's Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit web section at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/toolkit. The *Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit* is based on the recommendations of ACIP, equipment manufacturers' product information, and studies from the National Institute for Scientific Technology. The toolkit outlines best

practice strategies and recommendations on the following topics:

- Equipment considerations for storage units and thermometers
- Maintenance of the cold chain
- Routine storage and handling practices
- Inventory management
- Emergency procedures for protecting vaccine inventories

Every vaccine provider should print out this document and read and reread it carefully. CDC has provided an overview of the new information as a separate item at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/interim-storage-handling.pdf, as well as a set of FAQs about the new recommendations at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/interim-faq-storage-handling.pdf.

**New!
CDC's Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit**

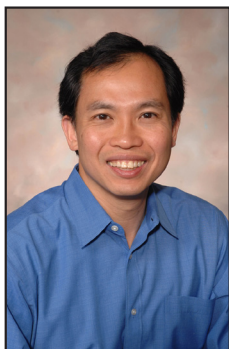
www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/toolkit

What are the new ACIP recommendations for vaccinating pregnant women with Tdap?

In October 2012, ACIP voted to recommend that a

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IAC Welcomes Dr. Litjen (L.J) Tan as Chief Strategy Officer



L.J Tan, MS, PhD

The Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) is pleased to announce that Litjen (L.J) Tan, MS, PhD, has come on board as its chief strategy officer. In this capacity, Dr. Tan will expand the already considerable range of projects that make IAC a national leader in immunization education and policy. He

will also lead IAC's strategic planning, which is aimed at moving the nation's immunization rates to the next level, across the age span.

In speaking about Dr. Tan, Dr. Deborah L. Wexler, executive director of IAC, said, “L.J is a world-class leader in public health and an absolutely unique talent. His accomplishments are already tremendous; for example, he co-founded two marvelous national summits that have brought hundreds of immunization leaders together as partners in unprecedented ways. We are thrilled to be working with L.J in expanding and improving the nation's immunization services and policies.”

Prior to joining IAC, Dr. Tan was the director of medicine and public health at the American Medical Association (AMA), a position he held since 2008. From 1997 to 2008, he was the AMA's director of infectious disease, immunology, and molecular medicine.

Dr. Tan is a voting member of the Department of Health and Human Services' National Vaccine Advisory Committee, where he served on the adult immunization, vaccine safety, and health-care worker immunization working groups, and is currently chair of the immunization infrastructure working group. He also served for more than ten years as the AMA's liaison to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, where he currently serves on the influenza, pneumococcal, zoster, and adult immunization working groups.

He co-founded and currently co-chairs the National Adult Immunization Summit and the National Influenza Vaccine Summit. He serves or has served on the steering committees of the 317 Coalition, the National Network for Immunization Information, and the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable and on the IAC scientific advisory board. In 2007, he founded the National Immunization Congress and organized its 2007 and 2010 meetings.

A skilled and sought-after speaker, Dr. Tan has been invited to address international, national, and state immunization audiences on issues ranging from vaccine financing to risk management in vaccine safety to emerging infectious diseases. He serves or has served on a host of expert and technical advisory panels, including panels for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, The Joint Commission, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In addition, he is the author or coauthor of many peer-reviewed articles and abstracts. During his tenure at the AMA, he wrote numerous scientific reports to guide the association's policies on a diverse range of public health topics.

Dr. Tan has received several awards for his advocacy work and most recently was awarded the American Pharmacists Association's national Friend of Pharmacy Award. As a part-time faculty member at the Institute for Science Education and Science Communication, Columbia College, Chicago, he received the 2000 Excellence in Teaching Award.

Dr. Tan's photograph has been added to IAC's staff web page at www.immunize.org/aboutus/iacstaff.asp.