

MAINTAIN THE “COLD-CHAIN” WHEN MOVING VACCINES!

It is critical that vaccine potency is protected by maintaining the cold chain at all times during relocation and transport.

The following procedures should be followed if vaccines need to be transported due to a power failure, short expiration date, or other reasons that require proper packing procedures of vaccine. If relocating large quantities of vaccine due to impending storm or power/unit failure, be sure to document the inventory prior to transfer and upon its return once the emergency scenario has been resolved. Diluents should travel with their corresponding vaccines at all times. Merck diluent should be packed separately (ok to remain at room temperature). To avoid false out of range data or unnecessary alarm triggers- the buffered probe/glycol bottle should be kept in proper storage unit so it “conditioned” for use.

Preparing for Transport

- The following materials are needed and should be always readily available:
 - ✓ Proper insulated container (e.g. the containers that arrive from McKesson, hard sided insulated containers or styrofoam cooler with at least 2-inch thick walls)
 - ✓ Frozen water bottles (properly conditioned before use for refrigerated vaccine)
 - ✓ Several chux, bubble wrap or other insulator to place as a barrier between water bottles and vaccine. Sheet of cardboard also helps keep contents stable
 - ✓ A continuous temperature monitoring device (data logger)

Refrigerated Vaccine

- Place *conditioned* water bottles in the bottom of the insulated container
- Place a layer of insulator on top of the water bottles so the vaccines do not directly touch them (to prevent freezing)
- Place vaccines on top of insulator
- Insert data logger near the center of the vaccines, never in direct contact with water bottles
- Add another layer of insulator over the vaccines
- Add another layer of *conditioned* water bottles
- Add inventory list
- Secure the lid of the insulated container, attach data logger to outside and seal with strapping tape.
- Clearly label the outside of the container “**Vaccine – Refrigerate Immediately**”
- Upon arrival at destination-read min/max and record current temperature of data logger. If the temperature rises above 8°C or below 2°C, place vaccine in proper storage unit and contact NHIP

Frozen Vaccine may be transferred without authorization in an emergency. Always pack frozen vaccine last, and unpack first

- Place **frozen water bottles (NOT conditioned)** in the bottom of the insulated container
- Place a thin layer of insulator on top of frozen water bottles (to prevent boxes from getting damp)
- Place vaccines on top of insulator
- Insert data logger near the center of the vaccines
- Place a thin layer of insulator
- Add 2 (or more) layers of frozen water bottles on top of insulator until container is full
- Clearly label the outside of the container “**Frozen Vaccine-Freeze Immediately**”
- Unpack frozen vaccine first when designation site is reached
- Upon arrival at destination-read min/max and record current temperature of data logger. If the temperature rises above -15°C place vaccine in proper storage unit and contact NHIP

Follow exact procedures when transporting back to original site

If vaccine is transferred for reasons other than emergency, and will become the permanent inventory of another practice, the transfer must be documented and received the NHIS by the end of the day.

See detail picture on reverse side

Contact NH Immunization Program 603-271-4482 for more guidance.

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LAYER #1
CONDITIONED FROZEN
WATER BOTTLES



LAYER #2
INSULATING MATERIAL
CARDBOARD



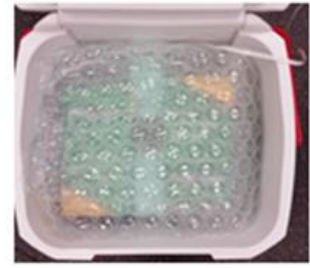
LAYER #3
INSULATING MATERIAL
BUBBLEWRAP



LAYER #4
VACCINES AND
TEMPERATURE
MONITOR (CAN PLACE
MORE VACCINES ON
TOP OF MONITOR)



LAYER #5
INSULATING MATERIAL
BUBBLEWRAP



LAYER #6
INSULATING MATERIAL
CARDBOARD



LAYER #7
CONDITIONED FROZEN
WATER BOTTLES
INVENTORY LIST AND
TEMP LOG ENCLOSED



LID WITH ATTACHED
DATA LOGGER FOR EASY
VIEW OF INTERNAL TEMP



Frozen Vaccine

Do not “condition”
water bottles
Pack LAST-
Unpack FIRST

See detail instructions on reverse side

- For frozen vaccine- DO NOT condition water bottles
- Fill cooler with as many frozen water bottles as possible
 - Do not transport Merck diluent in cooler