

Transportation of Large Quantities of Influenza Vaccine

Rationale:

The best assurance of vaccine efficacy is to minimize the number of times vaccines are handled and transported. If vaccine transportation to another location is required, it is critical that vaccine potency is protected by maintaining the cold chain at all times. If vaccine does not fit in a small cooler using the appropriate layering techniques, follow these instructions.

It is essential that Influenza vaccines shall be maintained at 35° - 46° F during transportation.

Special Instructions:

1. Equipment needed:
 - 1 vaccine transport ice cooler at room temperature
 - Ice packs
 - 2 large blue refrigerated ice packs
 - 1 large blue frozen ice pack
 - 5-6 smaller frozen ice packs
 - 1 plastic food storage container with cover
 - 1 certified calibrated digital thermometer with velcro
 - Vaccine
 - Diluent if needed
2. At least one day prior to packing, pre-cool the ice/cold packs and temperature probe in the refrigerator
3. One half hour before leaving for a clinic, it is recommended that the ice packs and the thermometer are placed in the cooler to stabilize the temperature before putting in the vaccine.
4. The cooler shall be packed in the following manner:
 - i. 1 large blue refrigerated ice pack on the bottom of the cooler
 - ii. 1 covered plastic food storage container with the vaccine and liquid bottle probe attached to the thermometer inside the container
 - iii. 1 large blue refrigerated ice pack
 - iv. 1 large blue frozen ice pack (place on top of refrigerated ice pack)
 - v. 5-6 smaller frozen ice packs to fill the rest of the cooler
5. The School Vaccine Provider shall pack the vaccine in the cooler the day of the clinic. Vaccine should remain in their original boxes when transported to the clinic site.
6. The School Vaccine Provider shall attach a label to the outside of the container to clearly identify the contents as fragile vaccines.

7. The certified calibrated thermometer shall be fixed to the outside of the cooler by velcro and used for all temperature readings.
8. The School Vaccine Provider shall record the time and temperature inside the cooler when leaving the office for the clinic. This data shall be recorded on the *Vaccine Transport Temperature Log*.
9. The School Vaccine Provider shall check the temperature at least hourly to ensure that the cold chain is not broken. Record the time and temperature on the *Vaccine Transport Temperature Log*. Do not open the cooler for hourly temperature readings. Retain these records for 3 years and then destroy.
10. If the temperature of the cooler falls outside of the recommended guidelines the School Vaccine Provider shall take the following actions:
 - i. Label the vaccine that it has been stored out of range
 - ii. Notify the Manufacturer of the product for instructions in handling the vaccine (Manufacturer's contact numbers are listed below)
 - iii. If the vaccine was obtained from the Maine Immunization Program notify the Maine Immunization Program at 287-3746.

Influenza 2011/2012 Season Manufacturer Contact Information

Manufacturer	Phone Number	Products
CSL Biotherapies	888-435-8633	Afluria
GlaxoSmithKline	866-475-8222	Fluarix and FluLaval
Medimunne	877-633-4411	Flumist
Novartis	800-244-7668	Fluvirin
Sanofi- Pasteur	800-822-2463	Flu-zone including High Dose

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