

Temperature Monitoring



Lesson 5

Guidance on Temperature Monitoring

Note: Formalized training will be released after vaccine product approval to provide vaccine-specific storage and handling, vaccine administration, and operational guidelines.

Note: CDC is adding a COVID-19 addendum to “Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit.”

COVID-19 vaccine products are temperature-sensitive and must be stored and handled correctly to ensure efficacy and maximize shelf life. Proper storage and handling practices are critical to minimize vaccine loss and limit risk of administering COVID-19 vaccine with reduced effectiveness.

Providers must monitor vaccine storage unit temperatures at all times using equipment and practices that comply with guidance in [CDC’s Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit](#).

Data Loggers

Every vaccine storage unit and transport cooler must have a temperature monitoring device. CDC recommends digital data loggers. Data loggers provide the most accurate storage unit temperature information, including details on how long a unit has been operating outside the recommended temperature range (referred to as a “temperature excursion”). Devices with a buffered temperature probe more accurately measure actual vaccine temperatures.

Have at least one backup device in case a primary device breaks or malfunctions, or is being calibrated.

Note: One vaccine product is stored at ultra-cold temperatures and will require a data logger that can register these temperatures. CDC is currently exploring options to support acquisition of devices for use with ultra-cold vaccines.