



COUNTY OF ERIE

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Cold Chain Requirements

Transporting at Refrigerated Temperatures (2°C to 8°C / 36°F to 46°F)

- Moderna, Pfizer, and Janssen vaccines may be transported refrigerated
- Use a portable refrigerator unit or qualified transport container with a digital data logger (Vaccine must be kept between 2°C to 8°C / 36°F to 46°F until just prior to administration)
 - **You must provide your own cooler with a temperature probe and thermometer**
- Transport only full, unpunctured vials
- Minimize shocks and vibrations during transport Keep vaccines out of direct sunlight
- Keep vaccines out of direct sunlight
- **Never** refreeze thawed vaccine
- Place vaccine into the refrigerated storage unit immediately after transfer
 - Fridge temperatures must be monitored and recorded daily (See attached Temperature Log for Refrigerator Vaccine Storage)

Transporting at Frozen Temperatures

- Moderna and Pfizer vaccines may be stored or transported in a frozen state
 - Moderna: Acceptable temperature range for frozen storage or transport is **-50° C to -15° C (-58° F to 5F)**
 - Pfizer: Acceptable temperature range is **-25° C to -15° C (-13° F to 5° F)**.
 - As long as the vaccine has not already been thawed, frozen transport is preferred for Moderna or individual vials of Pfizer vaccine
 - **Never** refreeze vaccine that has been thawed

- Use a portable freezer unit or qualified container and packout and a digital data logger acceptable for frozen temperatures. Frozen water bottles or ice packs can be used to pack cooler.
- Immediately upon arrival at the destination, unpack the vaccines and place them in a freezer or refrigerator at an acceptable temperature range.
- If individual vials of Pfizer are transported frozen, any hours used for transport count against the 2-week (14 days) limit for storage at -25° C to -15° C. Frozen vials transported at -25° C to -15° C may be returned one time to the recommended storage condition of -80° C to -60° C.
- Never transport or store Moderna vaccine on dry ice or below -50° C (-58° F).
- Keep vials out of direct sunlight.
- **If frozen vaccine begins to thaw during transport, store in a refrigerator at receiving location. Do NOT refreeze vaccine that has started to thaw.**

Beyond Use Dates

- Include hours used for transport when calculating the beyond use date (BUD) for vaccines
- **Unpunctured Moderna vaccine must be used within 30 days after thawing begins**
- **Unpunctured Pfizer vaccine must be used within 31 days after thawing begins**