Proper COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling to Minimize Wastage

Although COVID-19 vaccine wastage is low in Louisiana, every dose counts! Proper storage and handling of all COVID-19 vaccines is essential to protecting the supply and making sure that more people can be vaccinated. Please use the below chart to safely store and monitor COVID-19 vaccines to ensure effectiveness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine Brand</th>
<th>Vaccine Shipper</th>
<th>Vaccine Condition at the Time of Delivery</th>
<th>Storage-Temperature Range Upon Receipt</th>
<th>Thawing Options</th>
<th>Storage-Temperature Range After Thawing</th>
<th>Storage-Temperature Range After Dilution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer</td>
<td>Shipped directly from Pfizer</td>
<td>Frozen</td>
<td>Keep frozen at -80o to -60o C (-112o to -76o F)</td>
<td>In refrigerator: At 2o to 8o C (36o to 46 o F) for 2-3 hours, depending on number of vials</td>
<td>Keep refrigerated at 2o to 8o C (36o to 46o F) for 4 ½ days</td>
<td>2° to 25° C (36° to 77° F) and use within 6 hours from the time of dilution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pfizer</td>
<td>Morris &amp; Dickson</td>
<td>Refrigerated</td>
<td>Keep refrigerated at 2o to 8o C (36o to 46o F) for 4 ½ days</td>
<td>Not applicable. Vaccine already thawed at the time of delivery.</td>
<td>Same as upon receipt</td>
<td>2° to 25° C (36° to 77° F) and use within 6 hours from the time of dilution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine</td>
<td>Shipped from McKesson</td>
<td>Frozen</td>
<td>Keep frozen at -25o to -15o C (-13o to 5o F) or Refrigerate at 2o to 8o C (36o to 46o F) for up to 30 days prior to first use or Store at 8° to 25° C (46° to 77° F) for up to 12 hours (If kept frozen upon receipt) In refrigerator: At 2o to 8o C (36o F to 46o F) for 2 ½ hours, let stand 15 minutes before administering or At room temperature: 15° to 25° C (59° to 77° F) for 1 hour</td>
<td>Keep refrigerated at 2o to 8o C (36o F to 46o F) for up to 30 days prior to first use</td>
<td>Do not refreeze</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderna</td>
<td>Morris &amp; Dickson</td>
<td>Refrigerated</td>
<td>Keep refrigerated at 2o to 8o C (36o to 46o F) for up to 30 days prior to first use or 8° to 25° C (46° to 77° F) for up to 12 hours</td>
<td>Not applicable. Vaccine already thawed at the time of delivery.</td>
<td>Same as upon receipt.</td>
<td>Not applicable. Moderna requires no dilution.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have vaccine, however, that has fallen outside these guidelines, please contact the manufacturer for further guidance:

Pfizer – 1-800-438-1985
Moderna - 1-866-663-3762

If, based on the information you provided, the manufacturer determines that the vaccine is no longer viable, please ask the manufacturer to provide you the determination in writing by e-mail immediately. In addition, please report the vaccine loss to your Regional Immunization Consultant Supervisor whose contact information is available in LINKS at [https://lalinks.org/linksweb/main.jsp](https://lalinks.org/linksweb/main.jsp).
For additional information on storage, handling, and inventory monitoring for COVID-19 vaccine, please review https://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/3880 and the LDH COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Toolkit.

A large portion of COVID-19 vaccine wasted in Louisiana has involved vaccine expiring due to scheduled recipients not being administered the vaccine for one reason or another (e.g., illness, cancellations, refusals) and facilities not being able to find other recipients while the vaccine is still viable. To avoid further waste, we strongly encourage you to have a list of alternate/backup recipients who may be given the vaccine in case recipients who were originally scheduled are not available.

**COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling Online Training for Providers**
*10:30 – 11 a.m. CT | Friday, February 12, 2021*

All vaccination providers participating in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program are invited to learn the best practices for storing and handling the COVID-19 vaccines. Join the Louisiana Immunization Program at **10:30 a.m. on Friday, February 12, 2021**, for a quick online provider training as they provide information on storage and handling for the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines. **There is a size limit of 250 participants**.

For more information, visit the COVID-19 Vaccination – Provider Training webpage (https://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/4093) found on the LDH website.

**Topic:** Vaccine Storage and Handling Training  
**Time:** Feb 12, 2021 10:30 AM Central Time (US and Canada)  
**Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:** https://ldhophbcpregion2.zoom.us/j/87904556859  
**Or Telephone**  
Dial: USA 602 333 0032  
Conference code: 502264  
Find local AT&T Numbers: https://www.teleconference.att.com/servlet/glbAccessprocess=1&accessNumber=6023330032&accessCode=502264

The training will be made available on the Louisiana Department of Health YouTube Channel (https://www.youtube.com/user/MyHealthLa) shortly after the completion of the online training.