



Health Alert Network Message 21-12: Proper COVID-19 Vaccine Storage & Handling to Minimize Wastage & Information on an Online Training for Providers on COVID-19 Vaccine Storage & Handling

Origination Date:
February 11, 2021

Revision Dates (List All Revision Dates):

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.

Vaccine Brand	Vaccine Shipper	Vaccine Condition at the Time of Delivery	Storage-Temperature Range Upon Receipt	Thawing Options	Storage-Temperature Range After Thawing	Storage-Temperature Range After Dilution
Pfizer	Shipped directly from Pfizer	Frozen	Keep frozen at -80o to -60o C (-112o to -76o F)	In refrigerator: At 2o to 8o C (36o to 46 o F) for 2-3 hours, depending on number of vials or At room temperature: Up to 25 o C (77 o F) for 30 minutes	Keep refrigerated at 2o to 8o C (36o to 46o F) for 4 ½ days Do not refreeze	2° to 25° C (36° to 77° F) and use within 6 hours from the time of dilution
Pfizer	Morris & Dickson	Refrigerated	Keep refrigerated at 2o to 8o C (36o to 46o F) for 4 ½ days Do not freeze	Not applicable. Vaccine already thawed at the time of delivery.	Same as upon receipt	2° to 25° C (36° to 77° F) and use within 6 hours from the time of dilution

Moderna	Shipped directly from McKesson	Frozen	<p>Keep frozen at -25o to -15o C (-13o to 5o F)</p> <p>or</p> <p>Refrigerate at 2o to 8o C (36o to 46o F) for up to 30 days prior to first use</p> <p>or</p> <p>Store at 8° to 25° C (46° to 77° F) for up to 12 hours</p>	<p>(If kept frozen upon receipt)</p> <p>In refrigerator: At 2o to 8o C (36o F to 46 o F) for 2 ½ hours, let stand 15 minutes before administering</p> <p>or</p> <p>At room temperature: 15° to 25° C (59° to 77° F) for 1 hour</p>	<p>Keep refrigerated at 2o to 8o C (36o F to 46o F) for up to 30 days prior to first use</p> <p>Do not refreeze</p>	<p>Not applicable. Moderna requires no dilution.</p>
Moderna	Morris & Dickson	Refrigerated	<p>Keep refrigerated at 2o to 8o C (36o to 46o F) for up to 30 days prior to first use</p> <p>or</p> <p>8° to 25° C (46° to 77° F) for up to 12 hours</p> <p>Do not freeze</p>	<p>Not applicable. Vaccine already thawed at the time of delivery.</p>	<p>Same as upon receipt.</p>	<p>Not applicable. Moderna requires no dilution.</p>

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>.

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) (<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://ldhophbcpregon2.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/qlbAccessprocess=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.