Vaccine Temperature Excursion Guide

NOTIFY

Notify the primary or backup vaccine coordinator immediately if you discover a temperature excursion.

Bag the affected vaccines and place a label on them saying “DO NOT USE.” Do not discard these vaccines or remove them from the storage unit.

DOCUMENT

Document the details of the temperature excursion including the:

- Date and time
- Storage unit temperature
- Description of the event
- Determine the length of time the vaccine has been out of range
- Inventory vaccines affected
- Name of the person completing the report
- Submission of the DOH Vaccine Loss Log

CONTACT

If viability cannot be determined based on the manufacturer’s package insert, contact the manufacturer directly. Be prepared to provide documentation and data logger data. Follow manufacturer guidance based on viability of vaccines.

If manufacturer guidance is unclear, contact the Childhood Vaccine Program at WACHildhoodVaccines@doh.wa.gov with the manufacturer results to determine next steps.

CORRECT

Determine and address what caused the temperature issue. Check the basics, including the power supply, the unit door, and thermostat settings.

If the excursion was the result of a temperature fluctuation, follow guidance on adjusting the storage unit temperature to the correct range.

If the thermometer failed, implement your back-up thermometer.

If the storage unit failed, implement your emergency plan.