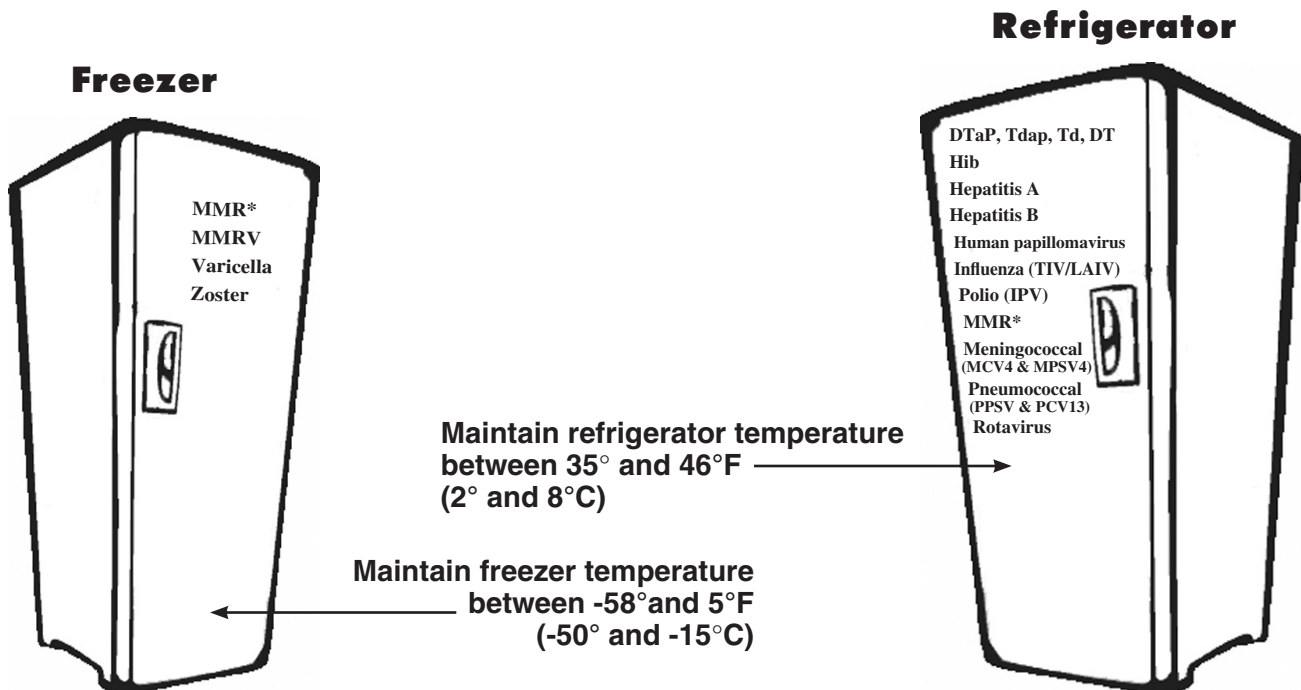


Vaccine Handling Tips

Outdated or improperly stored vaccines won't protect patients!



Manage vaccine inventories.

Inventory your vaccine supplies at least monthly and before placing an order. Expired vaccine must never be used and is money wasted!

Always use the vaccine with the soonest expiration date first.

Move vaccine with the soonest expiration date to the front of the storage unit and mark it to be used first. Keep vaccine vials in their original boxes.

Store vaccine appropriately.[†]

Place vaccines in refrigerator or freezer immediately upon receiving shipment. Keep vaccine vials in their original packaging. Place vaccine in clearly labeled wire baskets or other open containers with a 2–3" separation between baskets and from wall of unit. Separate vaccines that have been supplied from your state's Vaccines for Children program from vaccines that are privately purchased. Do not store vaccines in the door or on the floor of the unit.

*MMR may be stored in either the freezer or the refrigerator.

[†]Refer to package insert for specific instructions on the storage of each vaccine. If you have questions about the condition of the vaccine upon arrival, you should immediately place the vaccine in recommended storage, mark it "do not use," and then call your state health department or the vaccine manufacturer(s) to determine whether the potency of the vaccine(s) has been affected. For other questions, call the immunization program at your state or local health department.

Record your health department's phone number here: _____