

Vaccines Power/Equipment Failure Plan

In the event of a power outage or refrigerator/freezer mechanical failure, the following procedure can be used as a general guide to maintain vaccine viability.

Refrigerator/Freezer Mechanical Failure:

- Upon discovery of failure, document the current temperatures and the length of time the temperatures were out of range (data can be obtained from recording thermometers, if available).
- Record the vaccine name, manufacturer, lot #, expiration date and # of doses on the Emergency Response Worksheet.
- If temperatures were found out of range, place affected vaccines in a container marked “Do Not Use” and take to a working refrigerator/freezer in your facility or pack vaccines in a Vaccine Transfer Container with thermometers and take to a predetermined location.

Location: _____

- Contact the Vaccine Manufacturers to determine vaccine viability. Inform the Kentucky Immunization Program if any vaccine is lost at 502.564.4478.

Power Outage < 3 hours in duration (must have ice packs in freezer and multiple water bottles in refrigerator):

- Do not open freezer or refrigerator doors until power is restored. When power is restored, document the current temperatures and the length of time the temperatures were out of range (data can be obtained from recording thermometers, if available).

If temperatures out-of-range:

- Record the vaccine name, manufacturer, lot #, expiration date and # of doses on the Emergency Response Worksheet.
- Continue to monitor the temperatures until they reach the recommended refrigerator range of 35-46 degrees Fahrenheit (F)/2–8 degrees Celsius (C) and freezer range of 5 degrees Fahrenheit/-15 degrees Celsius or below.
- Contact the Vaccine Manufacturers to determine vaccine viability. Inform the Kentucky Immunization Program if any vaccine is lost at 502.564.4478.
- Do not discard any vaccine. VFC vaccine determined non-viable must be returned to the Kentucky Immunization Program using the Return and Adjustment form.

Power Outage > 3 hours in duration:

- Document the current temperatures and the length of time the temperatures were out of range (data can be obtained from recording thermometers, if available).
- Record the vaccine name, manufacturer, lot #, expiration date and # of doses on the Emergency Response Worksheet.
- Place vaccines in an Insulated Container (cooler, vaccine shipment box) with ice packs (see instructions below) and a thermometer.

Emergency Response Worksheet

Refrigerator

Current temperature _____
Time temperature went out of recommended range _____
Time temperature returned to recommended range _____
Maximum temperature reached _____

Freezer

Current temperature _____
Time temperature went out of recommended range _____
Time temperature returned to recommended range _____
Maximum temperature reached _____

Vaccines Stored in Refrigerator

Vaccine, Manufacturer, Lot #	Expiration Date	# of doses	Action Taken

Vaccines Stored in Freezer

Vaccine, Manufacturer, Lot #	Expiration Date	# of doses	Action Taken

Prior to this event, was the vaccine exposed to temperatures outside the recommended range? Y N

Were water bottles in the refrigerator and ice packs in the freezer at the time of this event? Y N