

Handling a Temperature Excursion in Your Vaccine Storage Unit

Follow the steps below following any temperature reading outside the ranges of 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C) for FRIDGES or -58°F to 5°F (-50°C to -15°C) for FREEZERS.

Notify

****Notify the primary or alternate vaccine coordinator immediately or report the problem to a supervisor.**

****Notify staff by labeling exposed vaccines, "DO NOT USE," and placing them in a separate container apart from other vaccines in the storage unit. Do not discard these vaccines!**

Document

****Document details of the temperature excursion:**

- Date and time excursion happened
- Download temperature information
- Storage unit temperatures (min, max, and time unit was out of range)
- Inventory of affected vaccines
- Any problems with the storage unit and/or affected vaccines before the event

Contact

****Contact vaccine manufacturers for guidance.**

****Submit a Vaccine Storage Incident Report to the Montana Immunization Program.**

Manufacturer / Stability Calculator	Phone
Merck Merck Calculator	1-800-672-6372
GlaxoSmithKline GSK Calculator	1-888-825-5249
Pfizer Pfizer Calculator	1-800-438-1985
Sanofi Pasteur	1-800-822-2463
MedImmune	1-877-633-4411

Correct

****If the unit is alarming repeatedly, do not disconnect the alarm until you have determined and addressed the cause.**

****Check the basics**

- Power supply
- Unit door(s)
- Thermostat settings

**** If you believe the storage unit has failed, implement your emergency storage and handling procedure (Section 12). Never allow vaccines to remain in a nonfunctioning unit.**

