

Vaccine Freezer Setup

1 Put cold packs in areas where vaccines should not be stored, including the freezer door and the top shelf.

2 Use a continuous digital data logger with a buffered probe as both the primary and backup thermometer.

In a chest freezer, place the probe of the continuous digital data logger next to the vaccines.

In a pharmaceutical-grade combination freezer unit,* place and secure the probe of the continuous digital data logger in the middle shelf.

3 Attach the display of the continuous digital data logger to the outside of the freezer, either on the door or on the side. Set the thermostat. Place a sign near the thermostat that says **Do not adjust the temperature controls. Notify vaccine coordinator if adjustment is necessary.**

4 Plug in the freezer. Secure with plug guard of cover. Post “Do Not Unplug” sign.

WARNING! Do Not Unplug

5 Set the freezer temperature:

- If the freezer has a thermostat, set it to 0°F or -20°C.
- If it has a dial with a number range, set it in the middle.

The next morning, check the temperature and adjust the dial until the temperature stabilizes at about 0°F or -20°C.

6 Once the temperature stabilizes, record temperature on the log once daily.

Do not store vaccines in the freezer until the temperature stabilizes to approximately 0°F or -20°C for at least 48 hours.

Staff initials	1	2	3	4	5	6
Day of month						
Time						
A.M. or P.M.						
Temp. (°F)						
Min temperature						
Max temperature						

*Pharmaceutical-grade combined refrigerator and freezer units offer essential features required for responsible vaccine storage and are ideal for clinics wanting a best-practice storage solution.