

Vaccines must always be stored at the temperatures recommended by the manufacturer even during off-site clinics. During summer months, outdoor clinic temperatures could exceed 25°C/77°F during the clinic day. Planning considerations should include measures to ensure both unpunctured and punctured vials or pre-drawn syringes are not exposed to temperatures above 25°C/77°F. Additional containers qualified to maintain the appropriate temperatures may be needed for both preparation and administration stations.

Pfizer-BioNTech

After the vaccine vial has been punctured or drawn into a syringe, the vial should be held between 2°C to 25°C (36°C-77°F). Vials should be discarded 6 hours after the first puncture. During storage, minimize exposure to room light, and avoid exposure to direct sunlight and ultraviolet light. Do not refreeze once thawed.

Moderna EUA

After the first dose has been withdrawn, the vial or pre-drawn syringe should be held between 2°C to 25°C (36°C-77°F). Vials should be discarded 12 hours after the first puncture. Thawed vials can be handled in room light conditions. Do not refreeze once thawed.

Janssen EUA

After the first dose has been withdrawn, hold the vial or pre-drawn syringe between 2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F) for up to 6 hours or at room temperature (maximally 25°C/77°F) for up to 2 hours. Discard the vial if the vaccine is not used within these times.

If you have any concern about the temperatures for an upcoming clinic, please contact the Immunization Program at AHS.VDHIImmunizationProgram@vermont.gov for guidance.

Additional Resources

Temperature Excursion Protocol:

www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Vaccine-Temp-Excursion-Protocol.pdf

COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling for Off-site Clinics:

www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Vaccine-Off-Site-Clinic-Guidance.pdf



Are you ready for summer?

Before you start your summer vaccination clinics, make sure you are following all guidance for maintaining COVID-19 vaccine at the proper temperatures.