

Setting Up Vaccine Storage Units

MMRV, Varicella, and MMR®II (Merck) must be stored in the freezer. Shingrix and Priorix (MMR-GSK) must be stored in the refrigerator with all other VFC and VFA vaccines. Refer to the [COVID-19 Vaccine Product Guide](#) for storage info that varies by product. Organize refrigerators and freezers to facilitate vaccine management and reduce administration errors. Do not store vaccines until storage units have stabilized within their OK ranges for 3-5 days.

Sample Refrigerator

✓ Clearly label VFC, VFA, BAP, and private vaccines.

✓ Group vaccines (pediatric, adolescent, adult).

✓ Label shelf space or baskets to make vaccines easy to find.

✓ Position vaccines or baskets 2-3 inches away from walls, floor, and other baskets.

✓ Store vaccines in original packaging with earliest expiration date in front.

✓ Diluents may be stored next to refrigerated vaccines unless manufacturer states otherwise. Never store diluents in the freezer.

✓ If necessary, medications or biologics may be stored below vaccines and on a different shelf.

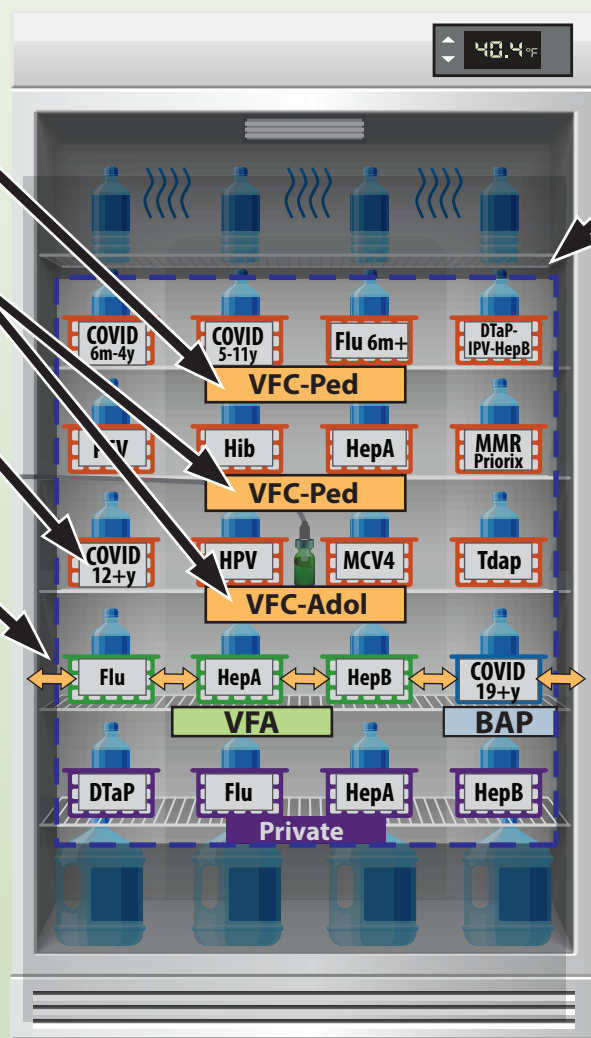
Usable space for vaccine is inside dashed lines.

✗ Do not block air vents.

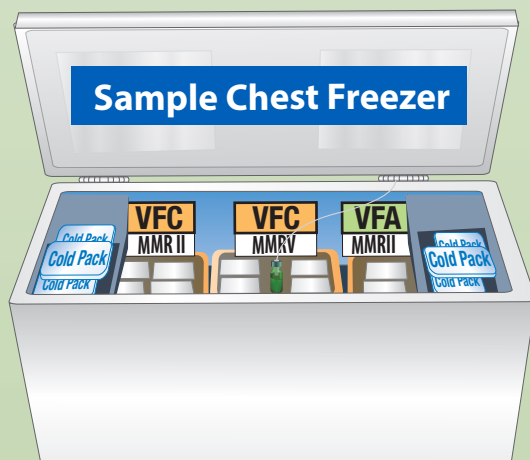
✗ Do not stack baskets on top of each other.

✗ No vaccines in doors.

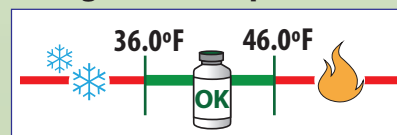
✗ No food or beverages.



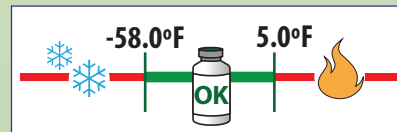
Sample Chest Freezer



Refrigerator temperatures



Freezer temperatures



CDPH Contact: