

Receiving Small Orders from TPR



California COVID-19 Vaccination Program

If sites selected "Delivery" when submitting a Small Order request, AmerisourceBergen will handle the packaging and redistribution of vaccines. Check with your local health department for delivery options.

Basics

- **AmerisourceBergen is transitioning to refrigerated vaccine shipments over January 2022**
- For vaccines shipped under ultracold temperatures, ensure staff are trained to [handle dry ice](#)
- **Vaccine products must be refrigerated at 2°C to 8°C upon receipt; once stored, vaccine cannot be stored at ultra-cold or frozen temperature ranges**
- Pfizer pediatric (ages 5-11, orange cap) and Pfizer 12+ years (purple cap) are currently available
- Pfizer 12+ Years (purple cap) was retired on 12/23/21; sites may continue to receive this product through Small Orders until local health department and TPR supplies are depleted
- Comirnaty (12+ years, gray cap) tris-sucrose product will ship at refrigerated temperatures once Pfizer purple cap supply is depleted; check shipments carefully to determine which product you received
- Primary Location Coordinator on the order receives emailed notifications regarding shipments and kits; see [Critical Systems & Senders](#) to ensure emails are not blocked or sent to Junk folders
- [Report any shipment incidents](#) in myCAvax; email C19vaccineops@amerisourcebergen.com for remediation; COVID Call Center will close out all incidents upon resolution
- Many lots of **Pfizer-BioNTech 12+ Years** were authorized for emergency use. Some lots comply with FDA approval of COMIRNATY for administration to individuals 16 years of age and older; scan QR code for full prescribing information and important safety information (see [letter to HCPs](#) in vaccine shipper)

Thermal Shipper

This [one-minute video](#) demonstrates how to open the shipper and stop the temperature monitor.



Frozen shipments: Vaccines will arrive in dry ice shipper.

Refrigerated shipments: Vaccines are cooled by gel ice packs and bubble wrap instead of dry ice.



Please read the shipper insert with important information about receiving.

A Styrofoam lid is placed over the interior payload. The entire foam shipper is surrounded by a corrugate outer shell and sealed for shipment.



Product vials and temperature monitor will be sealed in a padded envelope.

TempTale Ultra Temperature Monitor

Each shipment will include a data logger set to alarm if temperatures drift outside these ranges:

Refrigerated shipment: 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F)

Frozen shipment: -90°C and -60°C (-130°F and -76°F)

Pass/Fail Indications

- A check mark indicates temperatures were successfully maintained within the recommended temperatures; current temperature is displayed. (See top right.)
- An “X” indicator indicates vaccines were exposed to a temperature excursion. (See bottom right image.)



Temperature Data Download

In the event of a temperature excursion, the temperature monitor can be connected to a computer via USB to download the temperature data for further review to determine if the product is viable. If a site is unable to download the data, another shipment will be sent to replace the product.

Vaccine Expiration Dates

For Pfizer pediatric (ages 5-11) vaccine: Vial displays manufacture date—not expiration date; vaccines should be used within 9 months (count month printed on vial as first month). For example, if the vial date is August 2021, the expiry date is January 31, 2022. (Expiry date is also printed on the shipper label.)

For Pfizer 450 & 1170 (ages 12+) vaccine: Expiration date is printed on the vial.

To Avoid Administration Errors

As we transition over to Pfizer (12+ years, gray cap), please follow these guidelines:

- Label cartons, baskets, or shelf space clearly in large letters.
- Keep purple and gray cap formulations on different shelves.
- Train staff to recognize both products and understand differences in storage, handling, and administration requirements. See the [COVID-19 Vaccine Product Guide](#) for more information.
- Reference [Transitioning to Pfizer's Gray Cap Formulation](#) for additional details.

Instructions

Follow these instructions to receive and store redistributed vaccine for small orders.

Step	Description	Image
1.	Examine the shipping container for signs of physical damage.	
2.	<p>Open the thermal shipper on the floor as shipment may be heavy.</p> <p>a) For dry ice shippers, open in a well-ventilated room; wear safety goggles (or glasses with side shields) and waterproof, insulated gloves. (See Dry Ice Safety Job Aid.)</p> <p>b) Remove the Styrofoam lid to reveal the data logger.</p>	
3.	<p>Stop the temperature monitoring device.</p> <p>a) Remove device from padded envelop.</p> <p>b) Press and hold the red STOP button for about 3 seconds.</p>	
4.	<p>For dry ice shippers, you may need to wait 5–10 minutes until you can read the LCD display before proceeding; for refrigerated vaccines, LCD display should be immediately visible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LCD screen should show a stop sign (upper right corner) to indicate that you successfully stopped the logger, and either a checkmark or an X. 	
5.	<p>Check the temperature monitor to determine if vaccine is okay to use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Checkmark: Vaccine vials are ready to use. (See image.) X: Vaccine vials were exposed to a temperature excursion. Label vaccines “Do Not Use, store in your vaccine refrigerator, and continue below. Temperature monitor indicates a failure: Contact AmerisourceBergen at C19vaccineops@amerisourcebergen.com for further instructions. 	
6.	Inspect vaccine vials for damage and confirm all product was received.	

	a) Report any discrepancies in myCAvax after storing vaccine; select 'Shipping contents discrepancies' as the Incident Type.	
7	If vaccine is okay to use, transfer vials to your vaccine refrigerator.	
	Pfizer 12+ Years Formulation:	
	<p>a) Scan QR code to determine if lots fall under EUA or the FDA-approved COMIRNATY vaccine; see letter for HCPs in shipper.</p> <p>b) Store in refrigerator between 2°C to 8°C (35°F to 46°F).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete and attach a Pfizer BUD label of 31 days max from current date. 	
	Pfizer Pediatric (5-11 Years) Formulation	
	a) Complete and attach a Pfizer BUD label of 10 weeks max from current date.	
	<p>If vaccine is not okay to use, report the incident. Do not dispose of vaccine until instructed by AmerisourceBergen or CDPH.</p> <p>a) Remove rubber cap to expose the USB connector and insert into your computer's USB port. (A PDF will appear in file explorer.)</p> <p>b) Double click the PDF to download the temperature data.</p> <p>c) Report shipment incident in myCAvax and attach the temperature data PDF; select 'Out-of-range temperature' as the Incident Type.</p> <p>d) Email AmerisourceBergen at c19vaccineops@amerisourcebergen.com (include myCAvax shipment incident ID and attach temperature data PDF) for assistance with shipment incident, or for any issues downloading the data using the USB port.</p>	 

8.	<p>Recycle thermal shipper, bubble wrap, and gel packs and dispose of temperature monitoring device as electronic waste (device may contain lithium battery).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For dry ice shippers, open the shipper and leave at room temperature in a well-ventilated area; dry ice will readily sublimate from a solid to a gas. DO NOT leave dry ice in an unsecured area or flush in toilet.	
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