Transporting Moderna Vaccine

COVID-19 Vaccine

In most instances, vaccine will be delivered directly to the facility where it will be administered to maintain the cold chain. However, there may be circumstances where COVID-19 vaccine needs to be transported. In these instances, vaccine should only be transported using appropriate packing materials that provide maximum protection.

Frozen Transport

Follow guidelines in CDC’s Vaccine Storage & Handling Toolkit for transporting COVID-19 vaccine products.

Refrigerated Transport

Moderna vaccine being transported at temperatures other than frozen (-15 to -25°C) should begin with the vaccine in the frozen state if at all possible. If you must transport vaccine that has already been thawed, follow these general principles:

- Punctured vials should not be transported.
- Care must be taken to ensure vaccine does not re-freeze during transport.
- Vaccine must be protected as much as possible from drops, shocks, and vibration whether in the carton, vial, case or cooler.
- Vaccine should be transported in the carton whenever possible.
- If transport must be conducted at the vial level, the vial should be placed with dunnage (padding material like bubble wrap or similar padding) to minimize movement during transport.
- The vaccine should always be transported in insulated containers qualified to maintain 2-8°C for the duration of transport.
- The transport containers must be secured when being transported to prevent unnecessary movement.
- After completion of transport, vaccine should immediately be placed into a vaccine storage unit at 2-8°C.
- Vaccine should only be transported one time and should not be transported back again to the point of origin or to a new location.
- Allowable timelines for transport of thawed vaccine are shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transport while walking or using hand cart:</th>
<th>not to exceed 1 hour</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle transport:</td>
<td>not to exceed 12 hours</td>
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