



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



Fridge Check: Have you Changed your Batteries?

Vaccine thermometer batteries should be changed every six months to ensure fridge monitoring is accurate and cold chain is maintained. Spring is also a great time to organize and clean your vaccine fridge.

Fridge Checklist:

- Change thermometer batteries.
- Check expiry dates for all vaccines and diluents.
- Remove expired products from the fridge.
- Return all expired non-COVID-19 products to the Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) with a [completed Vaccine Return Form](#) (or find the Vaccine Return Form at durham.ca/hcp then Forms and Reporting). Expired COVID-19 vaccine should be disposed of by the administering organization.
- Store vaccines in the original packaging and organize by product, ensuring vaccines with the closest expiry date are used first.
- Maintain space between vaccines to allow for air circulation and store vaccine on internal shelves.
- Ensure no food, beverages, or specimens are in the vaccine fridge. Cold water bottles are permitted to assist with the regulation of fridge temperatures.
- Defrost freezers.

As a reminder, please call the Durham Region Health Department immediately at 905-668-7711 ext. 3063 if fridge temperatures go below +2.0 °C or above +8.0 °C.

May 1, 2024

905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

