

# Stop and Assess

## Is your vaccine fridge at +2°C to +8°C?

Report all vaccine temperatures outside of this range to Public Health

Follow these steps when reporting your cold chain breach:

1

**Quarantine Vaccine:** Place all exposed vaccine in a bag. Clearly label the exposed vaccine as “**Do Not Use - Cold Chain Failure**”. Mark the date and time. Place the exposed vaccine in a working vaccine refrigerator.

2

**Report to Public Health:** Complete the **Vaccine Cold Chain Failure Incident Report** and submit the report with your temperature log and current vaccine inventory by fax or email.

Fax: **902-481-5923**

Email: **PublicHealthVaccineOrders@nshealth.ca**

Download the incident reporting form:

**[www.nshealth.ca/coldchainincidentform](http://www.nshealth.ca/coldchainincidentform)**

3

**Wait for assessment:** Public Health will review your vaccine supply and advise what vaccine is safe for use and what vaccine must be returned. Additional guidance will be provided on any changes to expiry dates, or potential re-vaccination (if clients received vaccine that was stored at improper temperatures).

## Prevention is the key to ensuring patient safety

- ✓ Monitor all your vaccine fridges twice a day and document the minimum and maximum temperatures.
- ✓ Only store one month's supply of vaccine.
- ✓ Perform regular maintenance on your vaccine fridges.
- ✓ Have an emergency plan for vaccine storage in the event of a power outage.

**Questions? Contact Public Health's  
Immunization Program Line: 902-481-5813**

