

Planning for Off Site COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics – Home, Pop-up, or Mobile

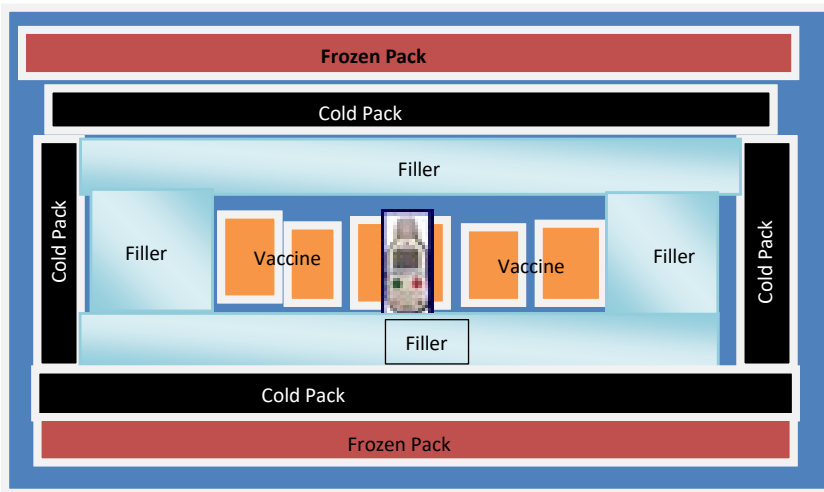
Off site clinics must be planned. Transportation of COVID-19 vaccine must be limited.

	Pfizer COVID-19 Product	Moderna COVID-19 Product
Storage of Thawed Vaccine	Refer to the current biological page on the AHS Vaccine Website : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological Product Information, • COVID-19 Vaccine mRNA Pfizer • <u>Storage section</u> 	Refer to the current biological page on the AHS Vaccine Website : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological Product Information, • COVID-19 Vaccine mRNA Moderna • <u>Storage section</u>
Vaccine Expiry after Reconstituting or Puncturing Vial	Refer to the current biological page on the AHS Vaccine Website : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological Product Information, • COVID-19 Vaccine mRNA Pfizer • <u>Preparation/Reconstitution section</u> 	Refer to the current biological page on the AHS Vaccine Website : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological Product Information, • COVID-19 Vaccine mRNA Pfizer • <u>Preparation/Reconstitution section</u>
Vaccine Transport	Review the current Alberta Vaccine Storage and Handling for COVID-19 Vaccine policy prior to moving vaccine. Track transportation time of vaccine on the <i>COVID Vaccine Tracking Tool</i> .	

Planning Considerations for all Locations

- Transportation: the amount of time that COVID-19 vaccine can be transported in the thawing/thawed stage must be limited. The current [Alberta Vaccine Storage and Handling for COVID-19 Vaccine](#) policy will indicate the maximum total time and the maximum number of trips that the vaccine can be moved. Track the cumulative time and the number times **each vial** has been transported on the *COVID Vaccine Tracking Tool*.
 - If vaccine was transported from the vaccine depot to the health centre in the thawing/thawed stage, include in the total transportation time.
 - Document the amount of transit time whenever the vaccine leaves the health centre.
 - Transportation to and from the offsite location must be accounted for.
- Cold Chain Maintenance:
 - All vials of vaccine must be transported in a vaccine bag that is monitored for temperature.**
 - Minimize the number of vials/doses taken to off-site location; only take what is needed due to the limited number of times that vaccine can be transported in the thawing/thawed stage.
 - Ensure sufficient vaccine bags, cold packs and ice packs for the duration of time away from the main vaccine fridge.
 - Ensure to factor in outside temperatures during the spring/summer i.e. 18 °C vs 32 °C
 - Plan to use separate vaccine bag for opened vials/prefilled syringes and unpunctured vials to maintain cold chain temperature and to minimize the number of times the vaccine bag storing unpunctured vaccine is opened.
 - Additional cold packs and ice packs need to be transported in separate containers that can maintain temperature.
 - Protect vaccine from direct sunlight
 - Temperature monitoring for the duration of the time away from health centre must be done.
 - Pack vaccine back to maintain cold chain (see diagram on the next page) and monitor continuously.

Packing Vaccine Bag



A TempTale™ or min/max thermometer probe must be placed in the middle of the vaccine to monitor temperature.

3. Minimizing movement of vaccine

- a. All vaccine must be transported in vaccine bags/coolers and kept in an upright position in original packaging wherever possible. Vaccine bags/ coolers must be packed in such a way as to minimize movement of the vaccine inside the vaccine bag/cooler.
- b. Vaccine bags/coolers must be secured inside the vehicle to minimize impact of rough roads; ensure protected from sunlight and direct contact with heater/air conditioning.
 - i. Do NOT transport in vehicle trunk or in the back of a truck.
 - ii. If using seatbelts, the middle of the back seat is likely best location.
- c. Punctured vials should not be transported.
 - i. Un-used doses that will be used right away should be drawn up and transported as pre-filled syringes (PFS).
 - ii. Transport PFS in properly packed vaccine bag
 - iii. All doses must be administered before the revised expiry date or time.

Additional Guidance for Various Settings

1. Home based vaccine administration.
 - a. Should be a planned home visit with the number of people to be immunized known in advance
 - b. If possible, complete fit to immunize and any required education prior to immunization visit.
 - c. Review [COVID-19 Immunization: Prefilled Syringes Policy](#)
 - d. Transport the exact number of prefilled syringes in a vaccine bag.
 - i. Prefilled syringes must be labeled with vaccine name and time of expiry.
 - ii. Ensure time in transit for thawing/thawed vaccine is considered.
 - iii. Doses must be administered before the time of expiry
 - e. Determine how and where people will be monitored following immunization
 - f. Take anaphylaxis kit and protocol:
 - i. know exact house number/locator in case ambulance must be called
 - ii. know emergency contact number
 - iii. check for availability of house phone (land line) or cell service upon arriving at house
2. Pop-up clinics e.g. drive through clinics, temporary clinic site in building or open space clinics
 - a. Ensure site is protected from weather, with easy access that can facilitate one-way flow through the various stations. (registration, pre-immunization/screening, immunization, post-immunization)
 - b. Determine how and where people be monitored following immunization

- i. Options:
 - stay in car - ensure process to monitor/communicate if any issues
e.g. coloured cards (i.e. green – okay, red – need help)
 - designated monitoring space – must meet COVID public health measures; ensure sufficient weather protection.
 - c. Take anaphylaxis kit and protocol:
 - i. know address/locator in case ambulance must be called
 - ii. know emergency contact number
 - iii. check for availability of house phone (land line) or cell service upon arriving at house
 - d. Unopened vials must be transported in vaccine bag and time in transit tracked.
 - e. Any unused doses from opened vials must be transported as a prefilled syringe, and time in transit tracked.
 - f. Immunization stations,
 - i. If able to set up immunization stations - proceed with clinic as per “usual” immunization practices
 - ii. If unable to set up immunization stations, establish a clean working area that is protected from temperature, sunlight, and other variables to draw and administer vaccines.
3. Mobile immunization units

A mobile immunization unit is defined as a self-contained vehicle where immunizations can be administered in the unit (i.e. a RV type unit, or other commercial type vehicle) or work as a base for any immunizations administered away from the health centre.

 - a. Vaccine must be transported in vaccine bags or coolers, or in approved mobile vaccine fridges.
 - b. Review [COVID-19 Immunization: Prefilled Syringes Policy](#)
 - i. Prefilled syringes must be labeled with vaccine name and time of expiry.
 - ii. Ensure time in transit for thawing/thawed vaccine is considered.
 - c. Doses must be administered before the time of expiry
 - d. Immunization stations,
 - i. If able to set up immunization stations - proceed with clinic as per “usual” immunization practices
 - ii. If unable to set up immunization stations, establish a clean working area that is protected from temperature, sunlight, and other variables to draw and administer vaccines.
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 - i. Options:
 - stay in car - ensure process to monitor/communicate if any issues
e.g. coloured cards (i.e. green – okay, red – need help)
 - designated monitoring space – must meet COVID public health measures; ensure sufficient weather protection.
 - f. Take anaphylaxis kit and protocol:
 - i. know exact house number/locator in case ambulance must be called
 - ii. know emergency contact number
 - iii. check for availability of house phone (land line) nearby or cell service at location

Working in High Ambient Temperature situations:

- Will likely need to bring extra cold packs and ice packs to ensure temperature is maintained for the duration of the time away from the Health Centre.
 - May need to replenish ice packs and cold packs from health centre to maintain cold chain.
- Keep opened vials and PFS in a separate vaccine bag
- Ensure portable shade is available if operating in the open and not in buildings.
- Plan to hold out-door clinics in cooler parts of the day

Resources

[Alberta Health Resources](#) (Check website for most current versions)

Alberta Health Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines for COVID-19 Vaccines

Alberta Health Pre-filled Syringe Policy

COVID-19 Immunization: Guidance during the COVID-19 pandemic

[Alberta Health Services Resources](#) (Check website for most current versions)

Moderna or Pfizer Biological Pages

Consent for COVID-19 Immunization

COVID-19 Client Immunization and Care After Immunization

COVID-19 Consent (for use when parent/guardian is not able to accompany client)

[Cancer and COVID-19 Immunization Poster](#)

[FNIHB AB Resources:](#) (Check website for most current versions)

Under COVID-19 Vaccine/Vaccine Clinic Resources

- COVID 19 Vaccine Clinic Planning Guide
- COVID-19 Vaccines Tracking Tool
- COVID-19 Fit to Immunize Tool
- COVID-19 Fit to Immunize – with rationale
- Management of Anaphylaxis Post Immunization Directive
- CDC Guidelines for Management of Anaphylaxis
- 2nd Dose Calculation Tool
- Packing Insulated Vaccine Bags

Under Temptale™ Data Logger:

- Using TempTales - Vaccine Bags
- Using TempTales – Downloading and Clearing

OneHealth/CDC Manual Forms (you must log in to OneHealth)

- Temperature Monitoring Tool
- Cold Chain Break Procedure