



CT DPH Immunization Program

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Website: CT Immunization Program | COVID-19 Vaccine Program

Redistribution Guidance for Moderna Vaccine (Provided by CDC)

Moderna vaccine may be shipped directly to sites in volumes of 100 doses per carton. Given the smaller shipment size compared to other vaccines, CDC recommends that each site administering vaccine receive a direct shipment. However, CDC recognizes that **redistribution** of vaccine may be required in some instances by jurisdictions, federal and pharmacy partners. Based on information to date from the manufacturer, for the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, immunization planners should consider the following general principles for vaccine redistribution:

- Once a vial of vaccine has been thawed, it may be stored refrigerated at 2-8°C for up to 30 days.
- Once thawed, the vaccine cannot be re-frozen.
- When thawed, the vaccine should be handled with care and protected from shocks, drops, vibration, etc.
- Vaccine being transported at temperatures others 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. Total transport time should not exceed 12 hours in total.
 - Transport while walking or using hand cart: not to exceed 1 hour
 - Vehicle transport: not to exceed 12 hours
 - Airplane transport (rotary wing aircraft not allowed): not to exceed 3 hours