

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT


## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Manisha Juthani, MD  
Commissioner



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Governor  
Susan Bysiewicz  
Lt. Governor

### Immunization Program

**TO:** All CVP Providers  
**FROM:** Mick Bolduc   
Vaccine Coordinator-Connecticut Vaccine Program (CVP)  
**DATE:** November 7, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** Change in Shipping Containers Used by McKesson

The primary purpose of this communication is to notify you that McKesson has begun utilizing reusable shipping containers for refrigerated vaccine shipments.

#### Eco-Flex Cooler

McKesson has started to use a reusable shipping solution for shipments out of its Memphis depot (see below). This new Eco-Flex cooler will replace the large & extra-large Styrofoam shippers and MUST be returned to Cold Chain Technologies for re-use. A pre-paid UPS return label will be included on the inner flap of each Eco-Flex cooler shipped. Providers will need to return the coolers via UPS the next business day after receiving their vaccine delivery from McKesson. Providers DO NOT need to schedule a pick-up if you have a regular UPS delivery. Please do not return expired vaccines in your Eco-Flex Cooler. Expired vaccines still need to be reported to the CVP and a mailing label will be electronically sent to you for those vaccines to be shipped back to McKesson.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact the CVP at (860) 509-7929.



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VFC Program Support

## Cold-Chain Shipment Change

Beginning **Oct 12, 2022** McKesson began utilizing an improved reusable shipping solution for some of the refrigerated VFC vaccine shipments shipping out of Memphis, TN.



The new EcoFlex cooler will offer performance improvements and an opportunity to reduce waste. This upgrade has many benefits, including a better customer experience, a more durable and improved shipping solution, and reusable materials. This change also provides supply chain protection by re-using the shipper instead of requiring the production of a new shipper for every order. Initially, this will replace the current single-

use large and then the extra-large Styrofoam shippers and may expand to other size shippers in the future.

Providers will ship them back to our vendor, Cold Chain Technologies, where they will be inspected, cleaned and refurbished for re-use. A prepaid UPS return label will be included on the inner flap of each EcoFlex cooler shipped. We ask that the Providers return the coolers via UPS on their next delivery day. Providers will not need to schedule a pick-up if they have a regular UPS delivery. Due to the increased cost of these solutions, the return of the cooler is critical to the success of this implementation.

*Please Note: Expired vaccines should not be returned in these packages. Expired vaccine returns should continue to be returned as per the Distribution Guide.*

Applicable customers should be receiving in their current shipping solution a notice of the change.

Each new shipping solution will include a package insert with handling instructions.