

March 2022

Dear CDC Provider:

As Merck takes the last step to expand our use of Reusable Shipping Containers, effective April 2022, we will begin shipping frozen Merck vaccines that originate out of our Plainfield, Indiana, Distribution Center, in a **REUSABLE SHIPPING CONTAINER** to health care providers located within the United States. This change is part of Merck's ongoing efforts to help reduce waste and negative impacts on our environment, while providing an appropriate shipping container for Merck vaccine products.

Important changes that you should be aware of include:

- The Reusable Shipping Container will look different than the current Styrofoam shipping container you have been receiving.
- The Reusable Shipping Container will now be used for ALL STANDARD small parcel shipments for ALL Merck vaccines. Please refer to the map below as to when your health care provider customers will start to receive the Reusable Shipping Container
- Beginning March 2022, Merck plans to begin using the Reusable Shipping Container for refrigerated small parcel vaccine shipments going to central and northern states, per the map below.



- In April 2022, Merck will begin using the Reusable Shipping Container for all frozen small parcel Merck vaccine shipments.
- The introduction of the Reusable Shipping Container to the Plainfield Distributor Center will be rolling out state by state so exact start date may change depending on that timing.
- Please bear in mind that once all Merck distribution centers are using the Reusable Shipping Container, you will no longer receive the Merck vaccines in the Styrofoam shipping container.

Information regarding proper handling of the new Reusable Shipping Container, along with detailed return instructions, will be included in each of the Reusable Shipping Containers. For detailed instructions and additional information, please use the link below to view a quick video.

You can also visit <u>www.merckvaccines.com/help/vaccine-shipping-schedule/</u>, or the Shipping Schedule page on <u>www.merckvaccines.com</u>, to view information about the Reusable Shipping Containers. An update to the Reusable Shipper FAQs on <u>www.merckvaccines.com</u> has been incorporated to highlight some changes to the Reusable Shipping Container since Merck first started this transition. Please refer to <u>www.merckvaccines.com</u> for any updates.

If you have any questions about returning the new Reusable Shipping Containers, please call AeroSafe at 585-760-2830.

For all other questions, please reach out to your Merck Representative or contact the Merck Vaccine Customer Center at 877-VAX-MERCK (877-829-6372) 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM ET, Monday through Friday.

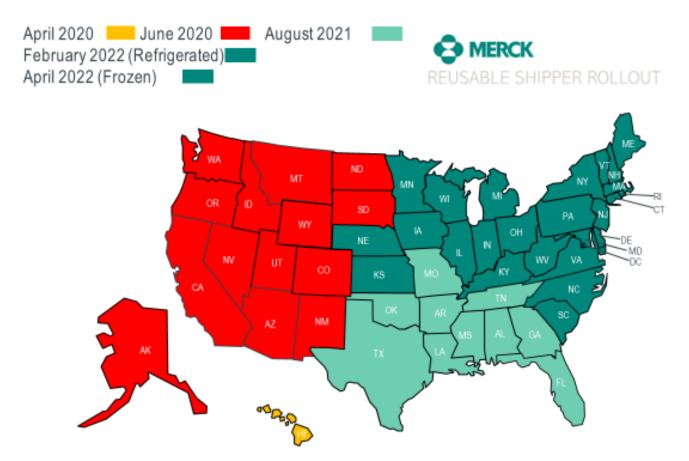
Sincerely,

John Mc Mahon

Joanne McMahon Executive Director, US Vaccines Contracting and Distribution Strategies Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp.

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\*These rollouts will be state by state.

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