

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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### Immunization Program

**TO:** All CVP & CoVP Providers

**FROM:** Mick Bolduc 

Vaccine Coordinator-Connecticut Vaccine Program (CVP)

**DATE:** March 13, 2023

**SUBJECT: Winter Storm Warning: Reminder to Safeguard Your Vaccines Against Power Outages**

*This communication is being sent to all key contacts at provider organizations administering CVP & COVID-19 vaccines. Please feel free to share it with others in your organization who may benefit from the update. Note that all our communications are archived on our [web site](#).*

Given that a severe winter storm is predicted to hit Connecticut over the next 24 hours, we are reminding you to please be ready to implement your back up safety plans. Clinics should ensure your vaccine coordinator and back up will be notified immediately if power is lost at your facility and/or a storage unit goes outside of the acceptable temperature range. Providers without a back-up power supply may want to move vaccines to an alternate location with a consistent power supply before the storm (such as a local hospital, pharmacy, or fire station) if this can be safely achieved.

When you enrolled in the CoVP and CVP Programs, we shared information on [Vaccine Storage and Handling Resources](#), the need for an [emergency back-up plan](#), and available resources to support you to safeguard your vaccines, if you need to revisit those resources.

**If a temperature excursion does occur, do not assume your vaccine is no longer viable. Report vaccine temperature excursions and/or vaccines wasted to the [Helpdesk](#) by following the prompts and submitting a ticket. Please store vaccines in the storage unit in a paper bag marked "do not use" until a determination about the viability of the vaccine has been made, in consultation with the manufacturer and the Immunization**



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Program. Do not discard or administer affected vaccines until you have discussed the viability of such vaccine with each vaccine manufacturer.

A reminder to also update as appropriate your own social media platforms with information about clinic and/or call center closings. We appreciate you and your staff taking the time necessary to safeguard all vaccines.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Immunization Program at (860) 509-7929.