

# Vaccine Potency Checklist for Managing a Power Failure

Practice name:

Date:

To ensure vaccine potency, our practice follows the steps outlined in this Checklist for Managing a Power Failure as per Appendix 9 in the [National Vaccine Storage Guidelines 'Strive for 5' 3rd edition](#).

Steps	Action Required	Done
1	Immediately isolate the vaccines and keep them refrigerated between +2°C and +8°C. Leave the vaccines in the refrigerator with the door closed. Put a sign on the refrigerator door stating: 'Power out. Do not use vaccines. Keep refrigerator door closed.'	
2	Closely monitor the refrigerator temperature. Ensure that the display of the minimum/maximum thermometer is outside the refrigerator so that readings can be obtained without opening the refrigerator door.	
3	Immediately begin to condition ice packs/gel packs as per Section 9.2 of <i>Strive for 5</i> . Begin this process even if you have been informed that the power will return shortly.	
4	Place additional ice packs/gel packs in a cooler to pre-chill the cooler.	
5	Transfer vaccines to the cooler when the minimum/maximum thermometer shows that the temperature of the refrigerator is outside the recommended +2°C to +8°C range.  If unable to read the thermometer, transfer vaccines as soon as ice packs/gel packs are conditioned. Pack the cooler as per Section 9.3 of <i>Strive for 5</i> . If a minimum/maximum thermometer is available, place the probe in the cooler and the display outside the cooler.	
6	Monitor and record the cooler temperature every 15 minutes for the first 2 hours, then at least hourly (provided the temperatures are stable).	
7	Ensure that a data logger is placed directly next to vaccines in the cooler.	
8	Do not open the cooler until vaccines can be transferred to a purpose-built vaccine refrigerator.	
9	If more suitable vaccine storage is available (e.g. at a hospital with an essential power generator), transfer vaccines in a cooler to the more suitable option. Ensure that the data logger always remains with the vaccines.	
10	If you know that power will be out for more than 24 hours, consider transferring vaccines to alternative vaccine storage, if available, at the nearest facility with power.	

*Whilst all care has been taken in preparing this document, this information is a guide only and subject to change without notice.*

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