

COVID-19 Pfizer Vaccine

Thermal Shipper Storage and Dry Ice Replenishment

A. Key Considerations

- A thermal shipping container may be used as temporary storage for up to 30 days.
- If using the thermal shipping container provided by Pfizer as temporary storage, it must be opened, inspected, and replenished with dry ice within 24 hours of receipt.
- Pfizer has [provided guidance on dry ice replenishment](#) for the two shipper types they provide - these steps should be carefully followed.
- If a provincially procured thermal shipper is being used for storage, necessary dry ice can be procured through a [federally negotiated contract](#) or, if a rush receipt is required, through a [provincial contract](#).
- Dry ice required for replenishment: maximum of 20-23kg of dry ice pellets, recommended sizes: 9-16 mm.
- With every re-icing, the shipper can maintain Ultra-Low Temperature storage for 5 days, with 2 openings per day of 3 minutes or less.
NOTE: Additional openings of shipper will require more frequent dry ice replenishment.

B. Resources

- [Pfizer Product Monograph](#)
- [Pfizer COVID Vaccine Resources](#)
- [Pfizer Product Storage and Dry Ice](#)
- [Pfizer Dry Ice Safety Data Sheet](#)
- [Pfizer Vaccine Shipping And Handling Guidelines](#)
- [Pfizer instructions on dry ice replenishment](#)

Any questions or requests for revision
of this document should be sent to
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List of Amendments

Date	Section	Description	Author
July 21, 2021	All	Format updated.	Keren Massey
July 21, 2021	A	Link added to updated Pfizer guidance for two ULT shipper models. Guidance updated to allow for openings for up to 3 minutes for dry ice replenishment.	Keren Massey