Refrigerator Setup for Vaccine Storage

A carefully organized refrigerator helps protect vaccine and facilitates vaccine inventory management. Refrigerate all vaccines except MMRV, Varicella, and Zoster. MMR vaccine can be stored in a refrigerator or freezer.

Refrigerator-only Unit

- Separate VFC vaccine from privately purchased vaccine and label them clearly.
- Place vaccine boxes in breathable plastic mesh baskets or directly on shelves. Label baskets or shelves by type of vaccine.
- Always keep vaccine in its original box. Do not open the box until you are ready to use the vaccine.
- Group vaccine by pediatric and adolescent types.
- Keep baskets 2-3 inches from walls and other baskets.
- Store only vaccine and other medication in vaccine storage units.
- Keep vaccine with the earliest expiration dates to front of shelf.
  If you have vaccine that will expire in 3–6 months that you will not be able to use, notify the VFC Program.
- Keep temperatures between 35°F and 46°F.

If you have any problems with your refrigerator, keep the refrigerator door shut and notify the California VFC Program at (877) 243-8832.

VFC Field Rep.