

**Did you know**  
an average provider  
stores tens of  
thousands of dollars  
worth of vaccines

Not having the correct  
refrigerator may lead to costly  
vaccine losses or worse, inadver-  
tently giving non-viable vaccines  
to your patients!

Providers must comply with the Adult Hepatitis Vaccine Project vaccine storage equipment requirement prior to participating in the project and receiving adult hepatitis vaccine. This requirement will ensure that State-supplied hepatitis vaccines are properly stored and managed, prevent inadvertent administration of improperly stored vaccines to patients, costly vaccine losses, and unnecessary vaccine waste. It will also ensure that providers have enough usable space to store vaccines.

All providers must comply with these requirements in order to receive vaccines. The type of unit required is based on:

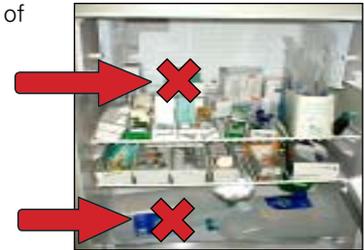
1. the number of vaccine doses your practice orders in a year (table below)
2. required specifications (table below)

Doses/Year	Required Equipment
Very high volume providers (10,000 doses/year)	Pharmacy-grade or biologic-grade refrigerator-only units.
High volume providers (2,000-10,000 doses/year)	Refrigerator-only (11 cubic feet minimum) units.
Medium volume providers (500-2,000 doses/year)	Refrigerator-only (11 cubic feet minimum) units or
Low volume providers (less than 500 doses/year)	Pharmacy-grade or biologic-grade under the counter units.

## REQUIRED SPECIFICATIONS

All refrigerator units must:

- Be a refrigerator-only unit.
- Maintain required vaccine storage temperatures (35°F – 46°F) year-round.
- Be automatic defrost (frost-free) and free of any frost, ice, water or coolant leaks. Manual defrost (cyclic defrost) refrigerators with visible cooling plates/coiling in the internal back wall are not acceptable.
- Provide enough space to store the largest number of doses expected at one time (including private stock and other public stock), allowing for vaccine storage at least 2-3 inches away from walls, floor, and other boxes.
- Be reliable (with a quiet compressor) and has not needed frequent repairs.
- Have a door that seals tightly and closes properly
- Not have convertible features that switch to an all-freezer unit.
- Have a working thermometer placed centrally in the unit. Thermometers must be certified in accordance with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).
- Be used only for vaccine storage.



**Please contact your Immunization Branch Field representative for further assistance**

*Note: The AHVP vaccine storage equipment requirement is equivalent to the storage requirement of the California Vaccines for Children Program*



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[getimmunizedca.org](http://getimmunizedca.org)

IMM-993

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## EASY STEPS TO BUY A REFRIGERATOR

1

Estimate the maximum number of doses of publicly-provided vaccine and privately purchased vaccine that will be in your refrigerator.

### Refrigerator:

Add the number of doses *on hand (current inventory)* from your last order form.

Public vaccine \_\_\_\_\_

Private vaccine + \_\_\_\_\_

Total doses = \_\_\_\_\_

Multiply (max inventory) x 1.25

**Maximum doses** = \_\_\_\_\_

2

Match your maximum doses with the minimum cubic feet needed to safely store your vaccine.

Max. Doses	Minimum Cubic Ft.
2,000+ doses	may need more than one refrigerator
1000 – 2000	40 cu. ft
900 – 1000	36 cu. ft.
801 - 900	21 - 23 cu. ft
701 - 800	17 - 19.5 cu. ft.
400 – 700	11 - 16.7 cu. ft.
100 - 399	4.9 - 6.1 cu. ft. (Must be pharmacy grade)

3

Search for product name and model numbers on the Internet for prices, dimensions, and locations. Verify that the specifications meet all requirements. \*Indicates pharmacy grade.

Minimum Cubic Ft.	Example of Acceptable Refrigerator Only Units
40 cu. ft	<b>Revco</b> REL-4504A; REL-4504D* <b>Nor-Lake</b> NSPR482* <b>Sanyo</b> SPR-49GD-MED*
36 cu. ft.	<b>Sanyo</b> MPR-1013; MPR-1013R* <b>Turbo Air</b> GST-40DR*
21 - 23 cu. ft	<b>Aegis Scientific</b> 1-R-22* <b>Sanyo</b> SRR-23FD; SRR-23GD; SRR-23FD*
17 - 19.5 cu. ft.	<b>Aegis Scientific</b> 3-CR-17* <b>Frigidaire</b> FCGM201RF; FCRS201RFB <b>Marvel Scientific</b> 17CAR
11 - 16.7 cu. ft.	<b>Avanti</b> BCAD680 <b>Nor-Lake</b> LR161WWW/0* <b>Kenmore</b> 60722 <b>Frigidaire</b> FRU17B2J; FRU17B2JW*
4.9 - 6.1 cu. ft. (Must be pharmacy grade)	<b>Sanyo</b> SR-L4110W; SF-L6111W; MPR-214F* <b>Nor-Lake</b> LRO61WWW/0; NSLR051WMW/0* <b>Revco</b> REL-404A*

### Things to think about before buying a refrigerator:

- Where will it go?
  - It must be placed away from direct sunlight and in a well ventilated area.
  - There must be enough space around it to allow air to flow freely.
  - There must be an electric outlet nearby that can be used only by the refrigerator and does not depend on the light switch.
- What is the warranty and extended service option?
- Will the store dispose of or recycle your old unit?
- Is there an energy rebate?
- How long will it take for the delivery of it?

### Getting started with a new refrigerator:

- Plug in the refrigerator (one unit per outlet).
- Place thermometers in the center of unit.
- Keep temperature between correct range of 35°F–46°F. Aim for 40°F.
- Record temperatures twice a day on your vaccine Temperature Log.
- Place vaccines in unit if recorded temperatures are within the correct range for at least 5 days in a row.
- Review Storage Guide at [www.eziz.org](http://www.eziz.org) for proper set-up and storage of vaccines.

**Note:** The use of trade names and commercial sources in this document is for identification only, and does not imply endorsement by the California Department of Public Health. Compare products to the requirements on the front page before purchase, as product availability and features may change.