

# VACCINES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM

## Vaccine Refrigerator Setup

Storing Vaccines

Carefully organizing vaccines in a refrigerator helps protect vaccine and facilitates vaccine inventory management. Freeze MMR, MMRV, Varicella and Zoster vaccines.

### Refrigerator-only Unit

Almost all of the space is usable (inside dashed lines).

The diagram shows a refrigerator with its door open. Inside, there are four shelves. The top three shelves are labeled 'VFC Vaccine' and contain mesh baskets of vaccines: DTaP, Hep B, Hib, IPV on the first shelf; PCV, Rota, Rota, Hep A on the second shelf; and MCV, Tdap, HPV, Flu on the third shelf. A temperature gauge shows 40°F. The bottom shelf is labeled 'Privately purchased vaccine' and contains baskets of DTaP, Hep B, Hib, and IPV. The door has shelves with water bottles. Callouts with red 'X' marks indicate: 'No vaccine in doors.', 'No vaccine in solid plastic trays or containers.', 'No food in refrigerator.', and 'No vaccine in drawers or on floor of refrigerator.'

- ✓ Place vaccine in breathable plastic mesh baskets and clearly label baskets by type of vaccine.
- ✓ Group vaccines by pediatric, adolescent, and adult types.
- ✓ Separate the VFC vaccine supply from privately purchased vaccine.
- ✓ Keep baskets 2-3 inches from walls and other baskets.
- ✓ Keep vaccines in their original boxes until you are ready to use them.
- ✓ Store only vaccine and other medication in vaccine storage units.
- ✓ Keep vaccines with shorter expiration dates to front of shelf. If you have vaccine that will expire in 3 months that you will not be able to use, notify the VFC Program.
- ✓ Keep temperatures between 35°F to 46°F. Aim for 40°F. Below 35°F is too cold! Call VFC. Above 46°F is too warm! Call VFC.

If you have any problems with your refrigerator, keep the refrigerator door shut and notify the Missouri Vaccines for Children Program at 1.800.219.3224.