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Returning Influenza Vaccine

Please return all unused Influenza vaccine from the 2008/09 season to Peel Public Health at your usual vaccine pick up site **by August 12th, 2009.**

You may return other expired vaccines as well at the same time.

Place returned influenza and expired vaccines in separate plastic bags clearly labeled with the following information:

- **Doctor's name and practice name**
- **Phone number**
- **Reason for return (i.e., 2008/2009 Flu vaccine or expired vaccines)**

If you have any questions, please contact Peel Public Health at 905-791-7800 x6404.

Managing Vaccine Supply During Power Outages

In the event of a power outage in your facility:

- Contact Peel Public Health at 905-791-7800 x2840 or x6404 to report the power outage
- Keep the refrigerator door closed.
- Continue to monitor and record the current, minimum and maximum temperatures.

If you have temperatures below +2.0°C or above +8.0°C, stop using all vaccines and place a sign on the fridge. **DO NOT** use or discard the vaccine until Peel Public Health has assessed the stability of the vaccine.

For more information on managing power outages, please refer to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines (pg 11-12).

Thermor® Min/Max Thermometer

Peel Public Health has contacted Thermor® after receiving several inquiries about whether the Min/Max Thermometer sensor probe can be submersed into water for more stable vaccine cold chain management.

Thermor® has **advised against placing the sensor probe in water** as the device is not water resistant. Placing the sensor probe into water may cause the thermometer to malfunction and record inaccurate temperature readings.

For accurate readings, please ensure that the sensor probe is attached to a diluent vial in a box and placed on the middle shelf of the fridge.



Due to increased costs, Peel Public Health is increasing the price of the Thermor® Min/Max Thermometers distributed to clients. **As of August 1, 2009, the price per thermometer will increase to \$31 (plus GST).**

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Vaccine Transport: Igloo® Playmate Hard-Sided Coolers

Peel Public Health is continuing to replace the blue soft sided coolers with the Igloo® Playmate hard-sided coolers as recommended by the MOHLTC.

Offices will be required to transport vaccines using the new hard-sided Igloo® Playmate cooler by the start of this year's 2009/2010 influenza season.

If you have not received the new hard-sided Igloo® Playmate cooler please contact Peel Public Health at 905-791-7800 x6404.

Note: Your facility will be contacted when the coolers are available.