

COLD CHAIN PREPAREDNESS *10 STEPS FOR SUMMER*

Please consider the following 10 steps for effective cold chain/ vaccine preservation especially over the summer holiday period:

YOUR FRIDGE:

1. Ideally have your fridge linked to backup power supply.
2. Use a dedicated labelled power point, tape up if necessary to avoid accidental unplugging.
Avoid double adaptors and use a power board instead.
3. Check you have a surge protector and is attached correctly your fridge power outlet. If not, contact your manager.

VACCINE STOCKS:

4. Keep vaccine stocks to a minimum (less waste potential).
5. Run down your stocks in anticipation of quiet (holiday) times, or transfer your stock elsewhere.
6. Boost order your stocks after you return from holidays, not before.
7. Store all vaccines in manufacturer packaging, position in shelves according to National/manufacturer guidelines.

MONITORING:

8. Arrange for someone to oversee fridge temp /function if you will be away for a period, or transfer your stock elsewhere.
9. Follow vaccine potency and temperature guidelines, (never discard vaccines without advice - see below).
10. Make sure your reliever knows the Protocols for Cold Chain breakdown, who to contact ie RIC, Central Immunisation Clinic, and actions to take ie discard as advised, and send incident report.
Contact for Wheatbelt Regional Immunisation Coordinator: 9622 4320.

