



Storage and Handling Quick Reference for Manitoba's COVID-19 Vaccines

COVID-19 Vaccine Product and Approved Age Indication	Ultra Low Freezer Storage Time (-90°C to -60°C) [‡]	Freezer Storage Time (-25°C to -15°C)	Refrigerated Storage Time Before Dilution or Puncture (+2°C to +8°C) [^]	Room Temperature Time Before Dilution or Puncture (+8°C to +25°C)	After Dilution or Puncture Time (+2°C to +25°C)
MODERNA					
Moderna (Spikevax™)  6 years of age and older Red Cap	Do not store at this temperature	Until expiry date on vial or identified extended expiry date: https://modernacovid19global.com/ca/health-product-risk-11jan2022-en.pdf	30 days	24 hours No dilution required	Must be used within 24 hours after first puncture
Moderna Infant (Spikevax™)  6 months to 5 years Royal Blue Cap	Do not store at this temperature	Until expiry date on vial or identified extended expiry date. Stored in the original carton to protect from light	30 days	24 hours No dilution required	Must be used within 24 hours after first puncture
Moderna (Spikevax™)  <i>Bivalent</i> ≥18 years Blue Cap/Green Label	Do not store at this temperature	As displayed on vial label and carton (expiry date)	30 days	24 hours	Must be used within 24 hours after first puncture
PFIZER					
Pfizer Pediatric (Comirnaty™)  5-11 years of age Orange Cap	12 months from the date of manufacture	Do not store at this temperature	10 weeks within the 12-month shelf life. Document 10-week expiry on carton.	12 hours prior to dilution	Must be used within 12 hours after dilution
Pfizer (Comirnaty™)  12 years of age and older Purple Cap	Until expiry date printed on label	2 weeks	1 month prior to dilution	2 hours prior to dilution (including thaw time)	Must be used within 6 hours after dilution
Pfizer (Comirnaty™)  6 months to 5 years Maroon Cap	12 months from the date of manufacture	Do not store at this temperature	10 weeks within the 12-month shelf life. Document 10-week expiry on carton.	12 hours prior to dilution	Must be used within 12 hours after dilution
Pfizer (Comirnaty™)  <i>Bivalent</i> ≥12 years Grey Cap	12 months from the date of manufacture	Do not store at this temperature	10 weeks within the 12-month shelf life. Document 10-week expiry on carton.	12 hours prior to puncture. DO NOT DILUTE	Must be used within 12 hours after puncture. DO NOT DILUTE

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Non-mRNA vaccines					
Novavax (Nuvaxovid™)  18 years of age and older Blue Cap	Do not store at this temperature	Do not store at this temperature	Maximum of 9 months, not exceeding the expiry on the vial/label	Should remain stored at 2°C to 8°C before first puncture No dilution required	Must be used within 6 hours after first needle puncture
Janssen  18 years of age and older Blue Cap	Do not store at this temperature	Until expiry date printed on the vial and carton	11 months, not exceeding the expiry date on the vial/label	12 hours No dilution required	After first puncture it must be used within: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 hours if stored between +2°C to +8°C • 3 hours if stored between +9°C to +25°C

‡ Expiry dates may be extended. Monitor for Health Canada announcements that may affect the expiry dates.
 ^ Length of time to be stored in refrigerator before puncture or dilution until being discarded, unless the manufacturer's expiry date occurs before that time.

Note: Most vaccines are distributed to providers at +2°C to 8°C (refrigerated temperature). **Thawed or partially thawed vaccines cannot be refrozen.**

- During storage, minimize exposure to room light, and avoid exposure to direct sunlight and ultraviolet light.
- Product should be marked with applicable expiry dates based on time in refrigerator and time after puncture to avoid administration errors. Please refer to the product monographs for all storage and handling guidelines
- Vaccine that is expired or cannot be used if it has reached past the identified timelines are to be removed from storage, deducted from any inventory (if applicable) and returned to MDA for proper disposal following Manitoba's Return Policy and Process (<https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/div/docs/vbrpp.pdf>)
- Regardless of storage condition, vaccine should not be used after 12 months from the date of manufacture printed on the vial and cartons.