Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine
Storage and Handling Summary

General Information
Refer to CDC’s Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit for best practices for vaccine storage and handling
1. Use purpose-built or pharmaceutical-grade units designed to either refrigerate or freeze.
2. Every vaccine storage unit must have a digital data logger temperature monitoring device.
3. Ensure vaccine is stored at the appropriate temperature.
4. Monitor and record storage unit temperatures following one of these options. Save storage unit records for 3 years, unless your jurisdiction requires a longer time period.

Delivery
Vaccine will arrive from the manufacturer. Unpack, following the manufacturer’s guidance, immediately. The vaccine may be stored in an ultra-cold freezer or refrigerator. Guidance follows.
- Diluent, if needed, that will arrive separately, not with the vaccine.

Storing UNPUNCTURED Vials

Ultra-Cold Freezer
Vaccine may be stored between -90°C and -60°C (-130°F and -76°F) until the expiration date
- Store vials upright in the tray or box protected from light
- Vaccine expires 12 months after the manufacture date printed on the vial. Determine the expiration date by:
  
  Month 1:
  Jan 2023
  (Printed on vial)

  Month 3:
  March 2023

  Month 6:
  June 2023

  Month 9:
  Sept 2023

  Month 12:
  Dec 2023
  Expires Dec 31, 2023

Use Pfizer expiration date tool at lotexpiry.cvdvaccine.com

OR

Using the month printed on the vial as month 1, count out 12 months. The vaccine expires on the last day of the 12th month

Refrigerator
Vaccine may be stored between 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 10 weeks.
- Do NOT refreeze thawed vaccine
- Store vials upright in the tray or box protected from light
- Use tracking labels to monitor the 10 weeks beyond-use date

Storing PUNCTURED vials
Vaccine may be stored between 2°C and 25°C (36°F and 77°F) for up to 12 hours

Cool/Room Temperature
Vaccine may be stored between 8°C to 25°C (46°F to 77°F) for up to 12 hours prior to first puncture.
- Do NOT refreeze thawed vaccine
- Store vials upright in the tray or box protected from light
- Track this 12-hour beyond-use time.

- Discard vial and any remaining vaccine after 12 hours