Best Practices for Vaccine Storage and Handling

Sample Refrigerator

- **✓** Clearly label VFC and private vaccines.
- **✓** Group vaccines (pediatric, adolescent, adult).
- **✓** Label shelf space or baskets to make vaccines easy to find.
- **✓** Position vaccines or baskets 2-3 inches away from walls, floor, and other baskets.
- **✓** Store vaccines in original packaging with earliest expiration date in front.
- **✓** Diluents may be stored next to refrigerated vaccines unless manufacturer states otherwise. Never store diluents in the freezer.
- **✓** If necessary, medications or biologics may be stored below vaccines and on a different shelf.

Usable space for vaccine is inside dashed lines.

- **✗** Do not block air vents.
- **✗** Do not stack baskets on top of each other.
- **✗** No vaccines in doors.
- **✗** No food or beverages.

Refrigerator temperatures

- 36.0°F OK
- 46.0°F

Freezer temperatures

- -58.0°F OK
- 5.0°F

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