

Managing a cold chain breach

Is it a cold chain breach?

- Temperatures **above 12°C**? **Cold chain breach**
- Temperatures **below 2°C**? **Cold chain breach**
- Temperatures **between 8°C and 12°C** → Check **duration**
 - for LESS than 15 minutes? **NOT a cold chain breach**
 - for MORE than 15 minutes? **Cold chain breach**

What to do immediately following a cold chain breach:

- Quarantine vaccines, label fridge “Do not use, do not discard”, and alert all staff
- Continue to store vaccines between 2°C to 8°C
- Report breach to Public Health Unit (PHU)
- Document the breach on vaccine storage troublesheet (on the back of the vaccine temperature chart)
- Await advice from PHU – do not discard or use any vaccines until PHU has provided instructions

How to report a breach:

SESLHD (South Eastern Sydney LHD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Form: ONLINE reporting form• Submit: online only – PDF forms will not be accepted at SESLHD• Link: https://redcap.sesi.health.nsw.gov.au/
SLHD (Sydney LHD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Form: PDF reporting form• Submit: email to SLHD-Immunisation@health.nsw.gov.au• Link: https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Documents/ccb-reporting-form.pdf

Next steps:

- Await advice from PHU - do not discard or use vaccines, continue to store vaccines between 2°C to 8°C
- PHU will provide instructions on which vaccines to **“retain”** and which vaccines to **“discard”**:
 - **“Retain”** vaccines: label each box with the **CCB sticker**:



Email: NSLHD-BHC@health.nsw.gov.au to order more stickers

- **“Discard”** vaccines: dispose appropriately in **medical waste bin** or **sharps bin**