

# Vaccines: Your Summer Preparedness Checklist

The summer season inevitably brings possible storms and the potential risk of power failures.

Without power, temperatures in most vaccine fridges (especially those with glass doors) will rise in a short period of time. Suitable alternative storage must be accessed quickly – to ensure vaccines are not exposed to temperatures above 8°C.

- If you have back-up power, test it now, for readiness!**

## Check that you have the following:

- appropriate cooler boxes large enough to store all your vaccines (*minimum recommended size is 10 litres*)
- enough ice bricks / gel packs to chill cooler boxes (*remember to condition ice / gel packs and pre-chill cooler before use*)
- a freezer where the ice bricks can be stored ready for use
- sufficient packing material, such as polystyrene chips or bubble-wrap to separate the vaccines from ice bricks, and paper to wrap the ice bricks
- a digital minimum / maximum thermometer for each cooler box which **must** be placed in a vaccine packet/box with the vaccines
- an easy to follow, written procedure for staff, in case of need.

## Cold chain resources

- > [Cold chain back up plan](#)
- > [Cold chain breach flowchart](#)
- > [National Vaccine Storage Guidelines 'Strive for 5'](#)
- > [Vaccine ordering and storage](#)

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## For more information

**Immunisation Section**  
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**Telephone: 1300 232 272**  
[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/immunisationprovider](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/immunisationprovider)

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