Thermal Shipper Storage & Dry Ice Replenishment

Key information:
- A thermal shipping container may be used as temporary storage for up to 30 days.
- If using the thermal shipping container provided by Pfizer as temporary storage, it must be opened, inspected, and replenished with dry ice within 24 hours of receipt.
- If a provincially procured thermal shipper is being used for storage, necessary dry ice can be procured through a federally negotiated contract or, if a rush receipt is required, through a provincial contract.
- Dry ice required for replenishment: maximum of 20-23kg of dry ice pellets, recommended sizes: 9-16 mm.
- With every re-icing, the shipper can maintain Ultra-Low Temperature storage for 5 days, with 2 openings per day of 1 minute or less.

NOTE: Additional openings of shipper will require more frequent dry ice replenishment.

For information on dry ice safety, see Dry Ice Personal Protective Equipment & Safety Considerations.

Resources
- Pfizer Covid Vaccine Resources
- Pfizer Product Storage and Dry Ice
- Pfizer Dry Ice Safety Data Sheet
- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Shipping and Handling Guidelines
- Pfizer instructions on dry ice replenishment

List of Amendments

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Any questions or requests for revision of this document should be sent to IBCOC_Operations@phsa.ca