

Transporting Comirnaty® (Pfizer BioNTech) and Spikevax® (Moderna) Vaccines Quick Reference Guide

**NHS REGIONAL TEAMS MAY INSTRUCT YOU TO UNDERTAKE MUTUAL AID.
THIS GUIDE OUTLINES PRACTICAL STEPS TO TAKE.**

→ Transporting vaccine from freezer (thaw in transit)



Remove carton from freezer and immediately assign a post-thaw shelf life.

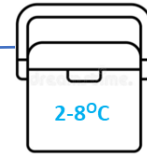
- Comirnaty – 1 month
- Spikevax – 30 days

N.B. Comirnaty is stored at ultra low temperatures which require ULT PPE to be worn.

See [SOP VH4](#) (Comirnaty) and [SOP MDH3](#) (Spikevax)

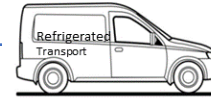
Option 1: cool box

- Pack securely into cool box ([see SPS cold chain](#)) guide
- Cool box should be validated or contain a thermometer or datalogger
- Do not pack together with vaccines that have already been thawed



Option 2: refrigerated transport

- For Comirnaty, put carton in another container so that the very cold carton can be carried safely.
- Keep separate (at least 30cm) from vaccines that have already been thawed.

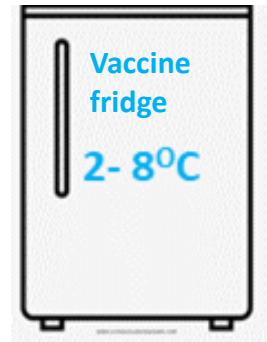


Transport to vaccination centre

- The vials must be held in an upright position to minimise movement in transport.
- Vaccines are fragile and must be handled with great care.
- Check cumulative time in transport does not exceed 12 hours. This includes all previous journeys since thawing. NB. there are no limits on the number of journeys within 12 hours.
- Hand over vaccine directly to authorised person at the vaccination centre.
- Report any temperature excursions or incidents (e.g. dropped vaccines) to the authorised person at the vaccination centre.

***IMPORTANT**
Mutual Aid forms must be completed for each transfer. Linked consumables (i.e. needles) must also be included

If thawed in transport, further time in fridge may be required to ensure vaccine is fully thawed



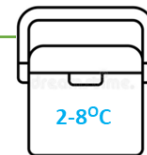
→ Transporting thawed vaccine



Identify if stock has been previously transported, and for how long. Post-thaw maximum cumulative time in transport is 12 hours.

Option 3: cool box

- Pack carton into validated cool box ([see SPS cold chain](#)) guide
- Cool box should be validated or contain a thermometer or datalogger
- Do not pack together with frozen vaccines.
- Vaccines must be protected from ice pack (if used)



Option 4: refrigerated transport

- Keep separate (at least 30cm) from frozen vaccines

