

Scott Walker
Governor



DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

1 WEST WILSON STREET
PO BOX 2659
MADISON WI 53701-2659

Linda Seemeyer
Secretary

State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

Telephone: 608-266-1251
Fax: 608-267-2832
TTY: 711 or 800-947-3529

March 1, 2017

Dear Vaccines for Children (VFC) Provider:

As required by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Wisconsin Immunization Program, as of January 1, 2018, **digital data logger thermometers, including one back-up digital data logger thermometer, are required for use by providers who receive VFC vaccines or other vaccines purchased with public funds.** To help you comply with this new requirement, the Wisconsin Immunization Program has put together the following information and resources to assist you with the transition.

The CDC and Wisconsin Immunization Program require that thermometers include the following characteristics:

- Continuous monitoring information and recording capabilities where the data can be routinely downloaded
- Active display that can easily be read from outside of the unit
- Digital thermometer with an external probe in a glycol-filled (or similar buffered solution) bottle
- Alarm for out-of-range temperatures
- Capability of showing current, as well as minimum and maximum temperatures, which indicate the coldest and warmest temperatures recorded since last reset
- Accuracy within $\pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($\pm 1^{\circ}\text{F}$)
- Low battery indicator
- Memory storage for at least 4,000 readings

For accurate measurement, the Wisconsin Immunization Program strongly recommends setting the data logger to record temperatures every 30-60 minutes.

Providers are required to have a back-up digital data logger. The purpose of the back-up thermometer is to protect your vaccine supply when:

- Your main units are being calibrated.
- You suspect thermometer malfunction.
- Tracking temperatures during vaccine transit.
- You conduct mass vaccination clinics.

For ease of recording temperatures, the Wisconsin Immunization Program recommends purchasing temperature monitoring devices that display the minimum, maximum, and current temperatures on an outward facing display as opposed to a device that requires the information to be downloaded in order to be analyzed.

Please do not confuse a high/low recording thermometer with a continuous monitoring thermometer. High/low units offer only basic information about the warmest and coldest temperatures reached. By comparison, continuous monitoring units give you the ability to store all past temperatures (on your computer or other data storage mechanism) for future reference.

The Wisconsin Immunization Program requires that providers contact the vaccine's manufacturer any time there is a temperature excursion with a follow-up call to your [Regional Immunization Program Representative](#). Additional information about temperature excursions will be available on the immunization program website by the summer/fall 2017.

Thermometer calibration must be tested annually or according to the manufacturer's recommendation and the certificate of calibration must be kept in an immediately accessible location. At a minimum, the calibration certificate must include the:

- Model/device name or number.
- Serial number.
- Date of calibration (report or issue date).
- Instruments passed testing (instrument is within tolerance).
- Applicable accuracy and tolerance requirements: uncertainty of +/-0.5°C (+/-1°F) or less.

The following is a list of additional resources available from EZIZ. They are linked for your convenience. You can expand each section for more information by clicking on the plus (+) signs within EZIZ

- [Data logger feature comparison guide](#)
- [Data logger purchase worksheet](#)
- [How to get your device calibrated](#)

Neither the CDC nor the Wisconsin Immunization Program endorses a particular digital data logger brand. The following information is a sample listing of a few basic data loggers for informational purposes only and is listed in no particular order. Please contact the digital data logger vendors for current pricing and availability. The terms and conditions of your purchase are between you and your vendor.

Brand	Phone Number	Website
Control Solutions	503-410-5996	www.vfcdataloggers.com
Traceable® Products	281-482-1714	www.traceable.com
Health Care Logistics	800-848-1633	www.healthcarelogistics.com
LABRepCo	1-800-521-0754	www.labrepco.com
Log Tag	N/A	www.logtag-recorders.com
Onset Data loggers	1-800-564-4377	www.onsetcomp.com/intemp

If you have any questions or concerns about this new requirement, please contact your Immunization Program advisors, or regional office staff. A directory of the regional staff can be found here: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/centralstaff.htm>

Sincerely,



Stephanie Schauer, Ph.D.
Immunization Program Manager
Wisconsin Immunization Program
1 W. Wilson St., Room 272
Madison, WI 53701



Lynette Hanson
VFC Coordinator
Wisconsin Immunization Program
1 W. Wilson St., Room 272
Madison, WI 53701