



Gerd W. Clabaugh, MPA
Director

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Date: August 10, 2015

To: VFC Program Providers

From: VFC Program

Re: Digital Data Loggers – VFC Temperature Monitoring Requirements

The Iowa Department of Public Health, Bureau of Immunization, would like to inform you of new Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program recommendations and upcoming requirements related to proper vaccine storage and handling practices. The VFC Program recommends the use of digital data loggers to monitor temperatures in all refrigerators and freezers storing VFC vaccine. The use of digital data loggers is recommended as they provide more accurate and comprehensive documentation of storage unit temperatures. This recommendation is expected to transition to a requirement effective January 1, 2018.

Due to restrictions regarding the use of federal grant funds and the cost of digital data loggers, the Iowa VFC Program will no longer be able to provide temperature monitoring devices to enrolled providers beyond December 31, 2015. The Iowa Immunization Program recommends VFC providers purchase and use digital data loggers to replace IDPH issued thermometers when current temperature monitoring devices expire.

The CDC VFC requirements for digital data loggers include the following:

1. Digital display on the outside of the storage unit
2. Detachable probe in a buffered material (such as glycol)
3. Alarm for out-of range temperatures
4. Accuracy within +/- 1°F (+/- 0.5°C)
5. Low battery indicator
6. Continuous monitoring and recording capability with the ability to download data routinely
7. Display of current, minimum and maximum temperatures, indicating the coldest and warmest temperatures recorded since device was reset
8. User programmable logging interval or reading rate (e.g., the user can program the logger to record temperatures at their preferred interval from every minute to every 60 minutes-current CDC recommendations is 30 minute reading intervals)
9. Memory holds a minimum of 4,000 readings
10. Comes with a valid certificate of calibration

The following is a list of digital data logger manufacturers and products that meet current CDC requirements and are being used by other state VFC Programs. The IDPH does not endorse the use of any digital data logger manufacturer or product and recognizes other manufacturers and or products may meet VFC digital data logger requirements. These and other products may be available for purchase from distributors and wholesale companies.

1. Lascar Electronics: - <http://www.lascarelectronics.com/index.php?location=us>
 - Model: EL-USB-TP-LCD
 - Model: EL-GFX-DTP
2. Berlinger USA - www.berlinger.com
 - Model: Fridge-Tag2
3. LogTag - <http://www.logtag-recorders.com/en/>
 - Model: Tred30-7R
4. T&D - http://www.tandd.com/product/index_temp.html
 - Model: TR-71wf

If you have questions regarding VFC Program temperature monitoring requirements, please contact Tina Patterson at Tina.Patterson@idph.iowa.gov or 1-800-831-6293, ext. 4 or Kelli Smith at ext. 2 or Kelli.Smith@idph.iowa.gov.