

Power Outage Key Messages:

- Prepare a power outage ahead of time; with a clear action plan identifying responsibilities, processes, and potential alternative storage.
- During the outage, keep the vaccines in the fridge, with the door closed.
- Regularly monitor the internal temperature, opening the door as little as possible. LEC Medical Pharmacy Plus fridges can be monitored locally via the LEC Medical app.
- If temperature is approaching 8°C, move to a portable vaccine cooler, if possible.
- When the power returns, monitor the fridge temperature at hourly intervals until stability is regained.

During a Power Outage, We Recommend:

- Ensure that appliance is not positioned in direct sunlight, near to heat sources, and has adequate airflow around sides, back, and top.
- Placing a sign in a visible location to tell other people to keep the appliance door shut until further notice.
- Using a battery-operated min/max thermometer or portable data logger, closely monitor the interior temperature at regular intervals. If the logger/thermometer isn't externally visible, remove from the interior shut the door quickly. Data loggers should be checked on a laptop for accurate temperature history.
- We recommend owning a portable vaccine cooler that can be used in periods of power outage, keeping vaccines between 2°C to 8°C cool for up to 30 hours. Gel packs should be stored in a separate freezer, to be available when needed.
- If you are using a LEC Medical Pharmacy Plus fridge, the controller's backup battery will ensure that temperatures are continuously being recorded for up to 48 hours, allowing you to monitor interior air and load temperatures on a Bluetooth enabled smartphone by using the LEC Medical app.
- Domestic refrigeration appliances (including ward fridges) are not designed for the stability required to store vaccines and should never be used as storage.

Once power is restored, we recommend:

- Record the minimum and maximum temperatures for the appliance.
- Reset the min and max temperatures for air and load.
- If the temperatures have exceeded the 2°C to 8°C range, follow local pharmacy protocol.
- Monitor temperatures regularly to ensure that stability is reached before returning to daily monitoring.