



# Maintaining the Cold Chain

## – Checklist –

- Store vaccines in a dedicated vaccine fridge. Do not store food or drink in the vaccine fridge.
- Keep the fridge temperature between 2 °C - 8 °C, ideally the fridge should be operating at around 5 °C.
- Record minimum & maximum fridge temperature daily (*preferably in the morning before vaccination begins*).
- Place thermometer/ thermometer probe on middle shelf. Probe should be placed inside a vaccine box.
- Keep door openings to a minimum.
- Do not allow ice to build up → defrost fridge regularly.
- Store vaccines on middle & upper shelves only. Do not store vaccines in fridge door or bottom drawer.
- Fill lower drawer and door with plastic bottles of salt water to help stabilise temperature.
- Allow air to circulate by not overfilling the fridge. No more than 50% internal volume filled & a gap of at least 4cm from all walls & between large packages.
- Rotate stock & use oldest vaccines first.
- Avoid disconnecting the power from the vaccine fridge by placing an adhesive label over the power socket.

