

Data logger loan service

Primary Health Tasmania owns and maintains several vaccine fridge temperature **data loggers**. These loggers are available for short-term loan to Tasmanian general practices if the Communicable Diseases Prevention Unit (CDPU) recommends the practice uses a secondary data logger.

Temperature data from the loaned logger can help CDPU and the practice investigate a suspected cold chain breach, or to compare temperature recordings taken on the practice's own equipment.

See next page for more information about the loan service.

What is the cold chain?

The 'cold chain' is the system of transporting and storing vaccines within the safe temperature range of +2°C to +8°C.

What are data loggers?

Data loggers are small electronic devices that measure temperatures at pre-set time intervals and record the results **continuously**. CDPU require that vaccine account holders have a data logger for each vaccine fridge.

What are the rules about data loggers?

In Australia, [National Vaccine Storage Guidelines: Strive for 5](#) provides information and advice for managing vaccine storage, including the use of **data loggers**.

In Tasmania, the [Communicable Diseases Prevention Unit](#) (CDPU) govern and administer the supply of Australian Government and Tasmanian Government funded vaccines. To meet requirements for a Vaccine Account in Tasmania, immunisation service providers must:

- have **continuous data logging** capabilities for each purpose-built vaccine fridge and complete weekly data downloads
- comply with [National Vaccine Storage Guidelines: Strive for 5](#).

The [RACGP Standards for General Practice 5th edition](#) requires that the person in the practice who has primary responsibility for cold chain management must ensure that systems comply with the current edition of the [National Vaccine Storage Guidelines: Strive for 5](#).

How does the data logger loan service work?

CDPU and Primary Health Tasmania work together to support immunisation providers in Tasmania. If a practice identifies or suspects a cold chain breach, they **must** contact CDPU. If a period of secondary temperature logging is advised but the practice does not have a logger available, CDPU will liaise with PHT to initiate a loan:

PHT will provide the practice with:

- a data logger, pre-set to record temperatures at 5-minute intervals
- a temperature data report (at the conclusion of the loan period).

CDPU will:

- Assist the practice with interpreting the temperature data and advise any further actions to be taken.

There is no cost to the practice for the loan service.

Does Primary Health Tasmania still send out loggers as an annual check?

As Tasmanian practices must now have their own logger/s and complete **weekly** data downloads, it is no longer necessary for Primary Health Tasmania to loan loggers for periodic audits.

Who do I call for cold chain and vaccine management advice?

Refer to [National Vaccine Storage Guidelines: Strive for 5](#).

If additional support is required, phone CDPU on 1800 671 738.

Primary Health Tasmania Limited
1300 653 169
info@primaryhealthtas.com.au
www.primaryhealthtas.com.au
ABN 47 082 572 629

