








Australian Government

# COVID-19 VACCINATION

## Storing opened multi-dose vials and vaccine doses

Version 1 - July 2023

| COVID-19 vaccine multi-dose vials   | TGA approved storage for opened vials/pfs* | ATAGI recommended storage for opened vials/pfs* | ATAGI recommended storage for pre-drawn doses            |
|---|--|---|--|
|  <p><b>Pfizer 6 months - 4 years (Maroon)</b></p>          | 12 hours<br>(2°C to 30°C)                  | 6 hours<br>(2°C to 30°C)                        | 1 hour<br>(8°C to 30°C)<br>OR<br>6 hours<br>(2°C to 8°C) |
|  <p><b>Pfizer 5-11 years (Orange)</b></p>                 | 12 hours<br>(2°C to 30°C)                  | 6 hours<br>(2°C to 30°C)                        | 1 hour<br>(8°C to 30°C)<br>OR<br>6 hours<br>(2°C to 8°C) |
|  <p><b>Novavax</b></p>                                   | 12 hours<br>(2°C to 30°C)                  | 6 hours<br>(2°C to 30°C)                        | Not recommended**  |
|  <p><b>Pfizer Bivalent (BA.1) 18 years+ (Grey)</b></p>   | 12 hours<br>(2°C to 30°C)                  | 6 hours<br>(2°C to 30°C)                        | 1 hour<br>(8°C to 30°C)<br>OR<br>6 hours<br>(2°C to 8°C) |
|  <p><b>Pfizer Bivalent (BA.4-5) 12 years+ (Grey)</b></p> | 12 hours<br>(2°C to 30°C)                  | 6 hours<br>(2°C to 30°C)                        | 1 hour<br>(8°C to 30°C)<br>OR<br>6 hours<br>(2°C to 8°C) |

\* Where a variation exists, the ATAGI recommendation should be considered best practice.

\*\* Data on the stability of pre-drawn doses in syringes is not available for Novavax, therefore storing pre-drawn doses of this vaccine in syringes is not preferred. If pre-drawn doses of Novavax are used, ATAGI recommends pre-drawn doses in syringes should be used within 1 hour if kept at room temperature, and within 6 hours if kept at 2°C to 8°C. This is to minimise the risk of infection.

For more information see: <https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/covid-19-vaccines/advice-for-providers/clinical-guidance/transporting-storing-and-handling>.