

Launch of new instructional videos on correct transport, storage and handling of publicly-funded vaccines

Update to York Region health professionals as of April 11, 2018

Vaccines save lives, prevent serious illnesses and are recognized as one of the most effective public health interventions available today. You play an important role in ensuring vaccines are transported, stored and handled at temperatures between +2°C to +8°C to protect the vaccine's effectiveness until it is administered to a patient. This is also known as the cold chain.

To help ensure you have the tools and resources to make this happen, York Region Public Health developed instructional videos on vaccine transport, storage and handling based on the requirements of the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Vaccine Storage and Handling Protocol. These videos demonstrate how to correctly transport, store, and handle publicly-funded vaccines and the process of reporting events of vaccine adverse storage conditions. These videos can help ensure vaccine safety and potency is maintained. You and your staff are encouraged to watch these videos to help ensure you are following best practices and minimize vaccine wastage.

These videos are available at: york.ca/vaccineinventory. You will be asked to enter your holding point code and facility name before you can access the videos.

During your 2018 vaccine fridge cold chain maintenance inspection, York Region Public Health's Registered Pharmacy Technicians will ask if you and your staff have viewed the videos.

If you have any feedback about the videos or your role in the correct transportation, storage and handling of publicly-funded vaccines, we would like to hear from you. It is important that we continue to work together to protect our valuable publicly-funded vaccines by ensuring that these vaccines are correctly transported, stored and handled to maintain their potency. Health professionals play a significant role in improving the health of York Region residents.

If you have any questions, please contact York Region Public Health's Vaccine Inventory program at **1-877-464-9675 ext. 74033**.