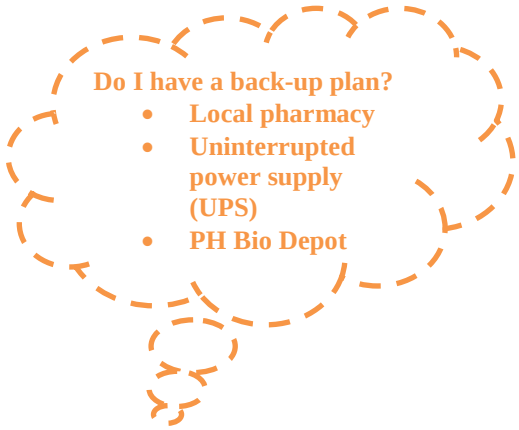
Anticipating a Power Outage - Urgent Vaccine Storage & Handling

When providers have cause to believe weather conditions or emergencies might affect vaccine storage, urgent procedures should be implemented **in advance of the event** to minimize vaccine wastage. Providers should have a Vaccine Management Emergency Recovery Plan. Agencies/practices are encouraged to arrange a back-up plan with local pharmacies or other providers with a back-up generator.



In the absence of a back-up plan Public Health Biologicals Depot could be designated as the alternate vaccine storage facility for your agency/practice.

Make advance arrangements with the Public Health Biologicals Depot to have the Depot designated as the back-up or alternate storage facility for your agency/practice. Contact us Monday – Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm.

- **Develop protocol**
- **Packing requirements are met**
- **Arrangements with courier**

Provide the following:

Name of practice/agency, and hours of operation.

Address and contact information, including name of primary vaccine contact person and back-up person for your practice.

Name and contact info for courier that will be used.

What you need to do:

Develop a protocol for vaccine transport to and from the Public Health Biological Depot.

Designate staff to pack vaccine to maintain cold chain temperatures (+2.0°C to +8.0°C).

Have packing materials on hand (e.g. vaccine cooler, refrigerated and frozen gel packs).

Record the inventory by lot number, amount of doses, and pack in a clear plastic bag with the inventory list visible as the packing list. Use the form: Inventory of Vaccine – Alternate Storage in Event of Power Outage.

Make advance arrangements with a courier service or staff to transport vaccine.