

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences 305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

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To: Vaccine Providers

**From:** Pejman Talebian, MA, MPH, Director

Immunization Division

Rattana Bip, Vaccine Manager

**Immunization Division** 

Date: January 2025

**Re:** Digital Data Logger Device Restitution Policy

This memo summarizes MDPH's current Digital Data Logger Restitution Policy.

The Vaccine Program consists of three sub-programs: universal state pediatric vaccine program, federal vaccines for children (VFC) program, and the limited adult vaccine program. The Vaccine Program provides free of charge digital data logger devices for vaccine temperature monitoring to all enrolled provider sites. Enrolled provider sites may utilize the state-supplied digital data logger devices or opt out and utilize privately purchased devices.

For more information on digital data logger devices and vaccine temperature monitoring, please see the Vaccine Program document <u>Guidelines for Compliance with State Vaccine Program Requirements</u>, Section B-3d.

## **Restitution Policy**

The Vaccine Program acknowledges that providers make good faith efforts to store and handle digital data logger devices appropriately, as outlined in the Guidelines for Compliance (referenced above). However, the Vaccine Program may require providers to provide restitution for any broken or lost state-supplied devices if:

- a. the device is rendered non-functional due to mishandling or improper placement
- b. the device is not returned to the Vaccine Program upon un-enrolling
- c. the device is lost or disposed of due to site neglect

In situations where restitution is requested, provider sites will be required to privately purchase a new digital data logger device of comparable value and functionality. For any site opting out of

utilizing state-supplied digital data logger devices or in instances of restitution, it is required that the privately purchased devices abide by the following requirements:

- Capacity for continuous monitoring and routine recording of data, with an accuracy of +/- 1°F (0.5°C)
- Active temperature display that can be easily read from outside the unit
- Detachable buffered temperature probe with glycol, glass beads, sand or Teflon, that best reflects the temperature of the vaccine
- Alarm for out-of-range temperatures and low battery indicator
- Ability to acknowledge and document electronically within the DDL system maximum and minimum temperatures at least twice daily
- Ability to generate a PDF output report, that clearly indicates daily maximum/minimum temperatures, alarms, and acknowledgment of twice daily temperature checks
- Logging interval (or reading rate) that is programmable to record temperatures at a maximum of 15-minute intervals with at least 4,000 readings storage capacity
- NIST certified calibration with an associated Calibration Certificate that includes:
  - Model/device number
  - Serial number
  - Date of calibration (report or issue date)
  - Confirmation that instrument passed testing (or instrument in tolerance)

Please note that the Vaccine Program will only hold providers accountable in situations of provider negligence as outlined above and will not seek restitution for a state-supplied digital data logger devices that are rendered non-functional or lost due to a circumstance not in the provider's control (i.e. act of nature). Providers will be given due process to dispute cases of avoidable loss. However, the Vaccine Program retains the right to make final determinations regarding digital data logger device restitution.

Any questions on this procedure can be addressed by calling the Vaccine Program at 617-983-6828.