

## ***Vaccines for Children (VFC)/Wyoming Vaccinates Important People (WyVIP) Thermometer Purchasing Guidelines***

### **Digital Data Logger Thermometer Guidelines**

The use of a digital data logger for continuous temperature monitoring is recommended for vaccine storage units.

1. A digital thermometer with a detachable probe that is kept in a glycol-filled bottle
2. Provides continuous monitoring information with an active display
3. Records current temperature, as well as minimum and maximum temperatures
4. To retrieve data, the main unit can be disconnected from the cable, leaving the probe inside the storage unit
5. The main device to remain on the outside of the storage unit
6. Has a reset button
7. Hi/Lo alarm for out-of-range temperatures
8. Low battery indicator
9. Accuracy of  $\pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $\pm 1^{\circ}\text{F}$ )
10. Memory storage of at least 4000 readings, will not rewrite over old data, and stops recording when memory is full
11. Programmable logging interval (or reading rate) – recommended to be set at every 15 minutes
12. Placed in the same area where the vaccine is stored
13. Data should be downloaded and reviewed weekly

### **Thermometer Calibration**

1. Use only calibrated thermometers with a Certificate of Traceability and Calibration Testing (also known as Report of Calibration).
2. Providers are responsible for maintaining certificates of calibration.
3. Refer to the “VFC/WyVIP Program Certificate of Calibration Checklist for Thermometers” found on the Vaccine Storage and Handling section of the Immunization Unit website ([www.immunizewyoming.com](http://www.immunizewyoming.com)), for specific thermometer calibration requirements.

### **Other Notable Information**

1. Each storage unit should have two calibrated thermometers, calibrated at different times.
2. In general, thermometers obtained in hardware and appliance stores are not calibrated instruments and are designed to monitor temperatures for domestic food storage – not vaccines.

*Note: The State Immunization Unit is not able to recommend any brand/manufacturer over another.  
Updated July 2013*