

DATA LOGGERS AND FREEZE INDICATORS

What are data loggers?

Data loggers are accurate electronic devices that record the temperature at regular intervals over a period of time. They are calibrated annually according to NATA standards.

Data loggers are provided and monitored by the Vaccine Management Unit (VMU) and replaced monthly with your regular delivery or if there has been a cold chain breach.

The temperature readings that are recorded by the data logger are downloaded by VMU. Data loggers are useful because they provided information on the length of time temperatures have been outside the recommended range of 2-8°C. The data logger should be stored with the vaccines at all times and attached to the middle shelf of the fridge and be allowed to hang without obstruction.

How do I use a data logger to do my twice daily check of current, minimum and maximum temperatures?

The LCD display on the data logger will continuously display the current temperature.

To read minimum and maximum temperatures:

Hold down the 'day/s' key on the left hand side of the LCD display or the 'hours' key on the right hand side of the LCD display. Keep holding the button down whilst the display counts back the numbers of days or hours you wish to check.

When the data logger has counted back the desired period of time, release the key. The data logger will first display the minimum and then the maximum values for the selected time period.

How to check if the data logger is alarming?

You will know if the data logger is alarming by looking at the LCD display – a data logger that has recorded temperatures outside of 2°C to 8°C will either have a flashing current temperature reading or have AL-H (alarm high) or AL-L (alarm low) in the top right hand corner of the display.

What are freeze indicators?

Freeze indicators consist of a glass bulb that releases a bluish/black liquid dye when exposed to temperatures at or below 0° C. When exposed to freezing, the glass bulb fractures, releasing the liquid dye. This liquid irreversibly stains the paper behind the glass bulb, providing a visual warning that the product may have been exposed to temperatures below 0° C for more than one hour.

How do I use a freeze indicator to monitor my refrigerator temperature?

- A freeze indicator should be adhered to a clean, dry surface on each shelf of the fridge
- To detect if the product has been exposed to freezing, observe the indicator
- If the indicator paper is stained blue/black the product has been exposed to freezing conditions



IF THE DATA LOGGER READS BELOW 2°C OR ABOVE 8°C, OR THE FREEZE INDICATOR IS BROKEN, DO NOT USE THE VACCINE AND NOTIFY YOUR CNC/MANAGER AND THE IMMUNISATION SECTION IMMEDIATELY ON 6205 2300.