

Purpose-Built Vaccine Fridges

Manufacturers approved by the Quality Care Pharmacy Program of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia for use in accredited pharmacies and available in NSW

Manufacturer	Contact Details	Models	Capacity	Approx. Cost (incl GST)
Rollex Group (Australia)	Ph: 1300 880 441 Fax: 1300 880 451 Mobile: 0416171814 Email: rollex@bentleybrokerage.com.au www.rollex.com.au	PE/PG 502 PE/PG 902 PE/PG 1202 PE/PG 1602	142L 277L 350L 441L	\$2527.25 (solid door); \$2787.29 (glass door) \$3214.94 (solid door); \$3756.04 (glass door) \$4200.00 (solid door); \$4600.00 (glass door) \$6059.27 (solid door); \$6334.39 (glass door) * Price does not include: - delivery (from \$125) - delivery/installation (from \$275) - surge protector (\$33)
Quirks Medisafe Refrigerator	Ph: 1800 804 627 or (02) 8805 2500 Email: sales@quirksrefrigeration.com.au www.quirksaustralia.com.au	S5 FKG311 FKG371	136L 306L 381L	\$2206.60 (glass door) \$2636.70 (glass door) \$2805.00 (glass door) * Delivery is not included in these prices
Thermoline Scientific	Ph: 9604 3911 Fax: 9725 1706 Email: sales@thermoline.com.au www.thermoline.com.au	TEPR 140-1 TEPR 250-1 TEPR 400-1	140L 250L 400L	\$3212.00 (glass & solid door) \$3690.50 (glass & solid door) \$3899.50 (glass & solid door) * Delivery is \$80 - \$100
ICS Pacific	Ph: 1800 664 664 Fax: (03) 9706 6556 Email: info@icspacific.com.au www.icspacific.com.au	G135L Medical G375L Medical	135L 375L	\$1868.90 (glass door) \$3577.75 (glass door) * These prices include delivery to capital cities

Crown Scientific	Simon Mears Account Manager Southwest Region (Illawarra) M: 0401 771 129 F: 1300 135 123 E: smears@crownsoci.com.au Phone: 1300 727 696 Fax: 1300 135 123 Email: sales@crownsoci.com.au www.crownsoci.com.au	MP 155 MP 285 MP 405	127L 224L 340L	\$3623.40 \$3623.40 \$5823.40 * Delivery is not included in these prices
Nuline Refrigerators	Phone: 03 9562 3355 Fax: 03 9562 4449 Email: info@nulinerefrigeration.com.au www.nulinerefrigeration.com.au	TTG14P BEV 32P BEV40P BEV60P	156L 320L 380L 640L	\$1848.00 \$2653.20 \$2801.70 \$3690.50 * Delivery is not included in these prices
Quantum Scientific	Ph: 1800 777 168 Fax: 1800 625 547 Email: sales@quantum-scientific.com.au www.quantum-scientific.com.au	Sanyo Medi-Cool Models MPR-161-Pharm MPR-311-Pharm	158L 340L	Prices available on request.

Prices current at October 2007

It should be noted that the Illawarra Division of General Practice does not endorse any particular model of vaccine refrigerator – practices need to consider their practice environment, staffing arrangements and other relevant details to ensure the most appropriate refrigerator is chosen.

Purpose-built Vaccine Fridges: Worth the \$\$?

By Gillian Minto (Sutherland Division of General Practice)

Data logging has continued to demonstrate that domestic fridges often do not comply with the recommended 2-8°C temperature range for optimal vaccine storage and there is therefore the potential to be giving patients impotent vaccines which consequently do not protect them.

The benefits of storing vaccines in a purpose-built vaccine fridge are:

- The fridges are programmed to operate between 2 - 8 °C therefore vaccines are stored in optimal conditions and should be optimally potent at vaccination
- Less chance of “cold chain failure” – a headache for you and your staff and an inconvenience for patients.
- The uniform cabinet temperature allowing storage on all shelves (unlike domestic fridges where only the upper and middle shelves are suitable) i.e. for the same dimensions of fridge, you get greater capacity
- Many models have glass doors allowing easy viewing of vaccines and shorter door opening times
- External temperature display with minimum and maximum features
- Alarms when minimum or maximum temperatures are breached
- Some models have in-built data loggers for continuous monitoring
- Automatic defrost
- Optional lockable door

It can only be a matter of time before GP accreditation requires practices to have purpose-built vaccine fridges to ensure vaccination with optimal vaccines. The Pharmacy Guild currently requires accredited pharmacists to have such vaccine fridges and it has produced a list of models that have been tested and meet their Quality Care Pharmacy standards. The table below shows a range of manufacturers and models available in NSW taken from the Pharmacy Guild list.

The size of fridge you require is obviously determined by the amount of stock you require to meet patient demand (-remember the flu season). Although all shelves on these models can be used, it is still important not to over-stock them so that air can circulate between packs of vaccine.

Why should we purchase these fridges? To ensure your patients are receiving vaccines in optimal condition and to give you and your staff peace of mind in achieving this.

How can we afford these fridges? According to the HIC, the General Practice Immunisation Incentive scheme's average SIP in the 2002-2003 financial year was \$153 per GP per month. The average outcome payment was \$917 per practice per quarter. Therefore, during that year, the average GPiI practice with >90% coverage rates received \$3670 in outcome payments alone.

For further information on the fridges mentioned above, including contact details, please contact a Practice Support Officer at the IDGP on 4226 7052.