

# True cost of vaccine storage & handling.

## Practices should understand how much vaccine storage & handling is costing them.

See below on expenses that are associated with vaccine management at a typical practice.\*

Vaccine Storage Hardware	Yearly	Monthly	My Values
▶ 2 refrigerators, 1 freezer <i>Each unit estimated cost of \$2,500, cost distributed over 5 years</i>	\$1,500	\$125	
▶ 4 temperature digital data loggers (DDLs) <i>Includes 3 DDLs in-use and 1 backup DDL            Each DDL estimated cost of \$100, replace every 2 years</i>	\$200	\$17	
▶ Alarm system <i>Automated notification when temperature is out of range            Estimated \$400 for dialing system, \$10/month service, over a 5 year range</i>	\$200	\$17	
▶ On-going maintenance and repair <i>Average 1 service call per unit every 5 years, \$400 for each service call</i>	\$80	\$7	
<b>HARD COSTS:</b>		<b>\$1,980</b>	<b>\$165</b>
Staff/Personnel Hours Spent <i>(using \$25/hour FTE with benefits rate)</i>	Yearly	Monthly	My Values
▶ Counting and rotating stock <i>4 hours per month</i>	\$1,200	\$100	
▶ Maintaining records for public and private inventory <i>2 hours per month</i>	\$600	\$50	
▶ Ordering, receiving, and reconciling vaccines <i>4 hours per month</i>	\$1,200	\$100	
▶ Documenting VFC temperature logs and inventory usage <i>2 minutes per recording, 2x per day, for 22 days of the month            Total of 2 hours per month</i>	\$600	\$50	
▶ Tracking and resolving patient documentation discrepancies <i>2 hours per month</i>	\$600	\$50	
<b>SOFT COSTS:</b>		<b>\$4,200</b>	<b>\$350</b>
<b>MINIMALLY COMPLIANT VACCINE STORAGE &amp; HANDLING COSTS:</b>		<b>\$6,180</b>	<b>\$515</b>

### Additional Indirect Vaccine Costs

Other expenses can make storage & handling costly for practices. It is important to be aware and effectively manage the following indirect costs related to vaccine storage & handling:

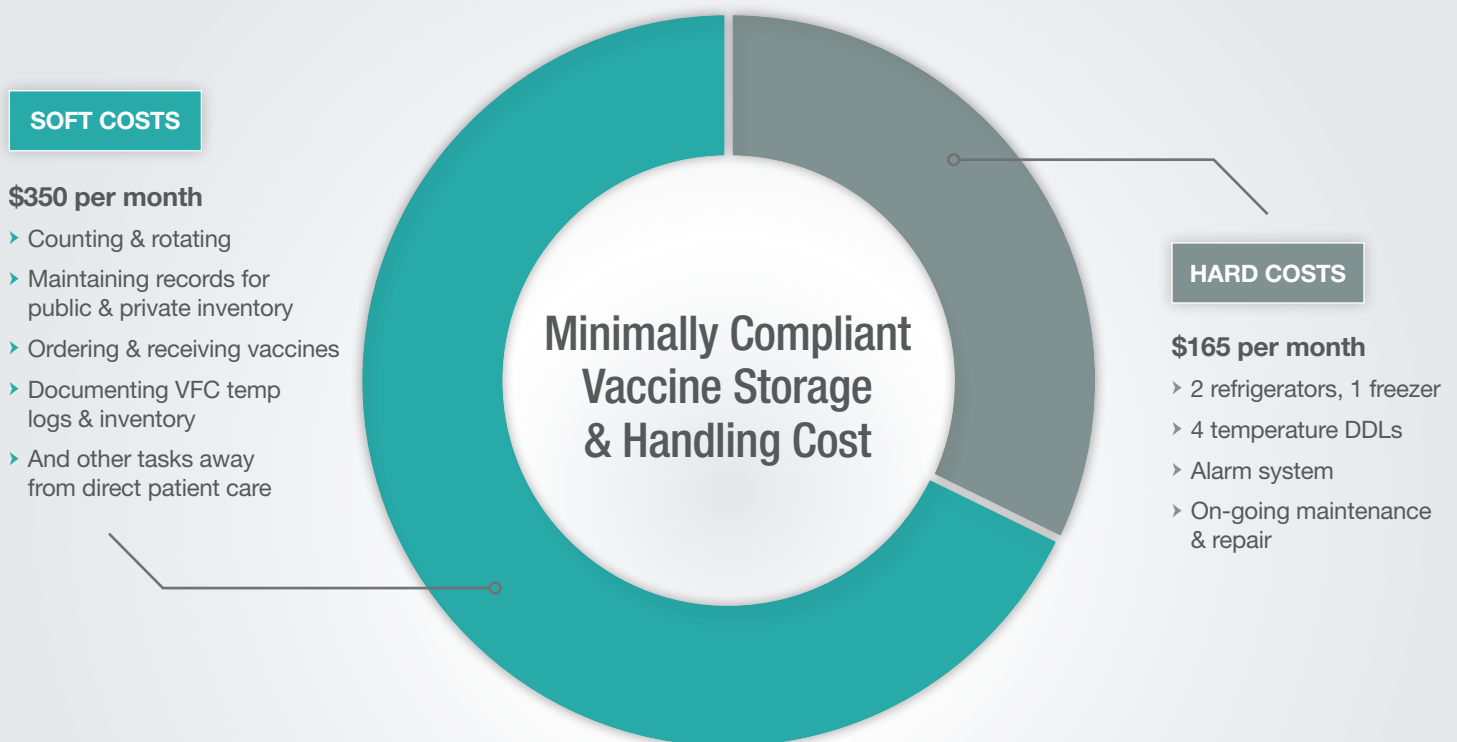
- ▶ 2-3% loss due to shrinkage, theft, vendor error, and/or administrative error<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ Additional 1-2% loss due to wastage or non-payment<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ Insurance coverage for product loss
- ▶ Lost opportunity costs maintaining large vaccine inventory

**Plus \$10,000  
or more in annual  
indirect costs**

# What are you really spending on vaccine storage & handling?

The true costs of vaccine storage & handling is on-going.

The example below shows that even with a minimally compliant solution, vaccine storage & handling can be a significant on-going cost to any practice.



See details on reverse side

**\$515 direct costs per month + \$800 indirect costs per month can add up to \$1,300 or more per month to meet vaccine storage & handling needs**

Indirect costs include vaccine waste, non-payment, loss, theft, or administrative errors. Just one missing vaccine dose can be a loss of \$100 to a practice.

\* Typical Practice Assumptions: 1 location; 30 patient visits per day, 30 doses administered per day (~\$790K annual vaccines purchased); 2 refrigerators, 1 freezer; \$25/hour staff rate; 50% VFC inventory and average price for private vaccine purchase \$100 per dose.

Reference: 1. AAP. The Business Case for Pricing Vaccines. 2012. ([https://www.aap.org/en-us/Documents/immunizations\\_thebusinesscase.pdf](https://www.aap.org/en-us/Documents/immunizations_thebusinesscase.pdf))

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