

NSF / ANSI 456 STANDARD FOR VACCINE STORAGE

The Joint Committee for Vaccine Storage, formed under a partnership between the CDC and NSF International, has finalized a new standard for vaccine storage. This new standard is designed to help providers better understand the performance of vaccine storage units and ensure vaccine storage units can maintain 5°C +/- 3°C across all potential storage locations under varying load and use conditions.

The following criteria are key requirements for meeting the NSF / ANSI 456 standard and certification through third-party testing:

- Temperature performance under steady state and door opening conditions
- Temperature performance with minimal volume stored in unit and fully loaded unit should have a display presenting the temperature inside the unit
- Doors should be self-closing
- Barriers inside unit to prevent storage of vaccines in areas that do not meet temperature requirements
- Audible and visual alarms for temperature excursions, door openings, etc
- Ability to pass cables into the unit without breaking the door seal

Not sure if your vaccine storage equipment meets the new standard?

Contact us to learn more about Helmer's GX Solutions line of vaccine refrigerators and freezers, designed and tested to meet NSF / ANSI 456

The NSF/ANSI 456 Vaccine Storage Standard was developed by a cross-functional committee that included healthcare providers, vaccine manufacturers, equipment suppliers, public health agencies, NIST, and NSF.

The graph below is an example of a Helmer Scientific vaccine refrigerator’s performance during steady state operation, and a single extended-length door opening. This evaluation was conducted with the cabinet empty using protocols adopted from the NSF/ANSI 456 Vaccine Storage Standard. The unit maintained temperature between 3°C and 5°C across all 15 tested cabinet locations during steady state operation. The unit also recovered to below 8°C within 15 minutes after the door was closed following an extended door open event.

Helmer Scientific GX Solutions Undercounter Refrigerator
 Aluminum weighted probes
 Weighted probes at edge of usable space
 Steady state data
 Empty cabinet

