

Vaccine Transit from Hospitals to LTC Facilities

The threat here will be coordinated theft or tampering of the vaccine during transit by people with knowledge of the cargo and possible anticipated delivery. This threat is heightened if the transit is predictable, i.e. predictable days / time, routes, predetermined stops, same personnel, branded vehicles, social media posts. Insider threat agents either by malicious coordination or by negligent behaviours will be the greatest vulnerability i.e. talking about it, telling people, posting on social media (this applies to both individuals and organizations)

Mitigation strategy– keep the delivery, arrival and transit route of the vaccine random, not set on any pattern or schedule. The risk to the vaccine will decline as more of the population is vaccinated and more of the vaccine is available.

Storage at LTC Facility

The threat to the vaccine remains elevated until such time as more of the population becomes vaccinated and more of the various forms of the vaccine are readily available. There still remains the threat of opportunistic or coordinated theft / tampering of the vaccine where procedural and / or robust physical security measures are limited and there is knowledge of security weaknesses plus the opportunity to exploit those. Understandably, LTC homes do not have as robust Physical Protection Systems (PPS) as hospitals, and they will not be storing the same volumes as hospitals. Insider threat agents still remain the largest vulnerability to theft, tampering or disruption of the distribution of the vaccine.

Mitigation Strategy- Establishing procedural protocols, such as: employee confidentiality agreements, security clearance screening, unpredictable times of conducting daily inventory, protection in depth of handling (rotating) i.e. two person monitoring system. It is encouraged that these procedures are also complemented with physical security measures such as storing the vaccine in locked refrigerators with a key controlled lock i.e. key watcher or key control cabinet to store the keys used for the refrigerator locking mechanism. As well, it is encouraged that the vaccine is be stored in an access-controlled room (card reader locking mechanism that can be audited). Further, video security surveillance will add a layered security approach to better protect the vaccines.

If the same staff members are responsible for the vaccines and there are no physical and procedural safeguards in place against insider or outsider attacks to exploit vulnerabilities, the risk is elevated.