

## Capsules - Summer Shipments

Empty Capsules are more sensitive to heat than filled capsules as they have no support from the inside. When exposed to temperatures over 80-85°F for more than a few hours they can start to lose their circular shape and due to moisture loss they can shrink non-uniformly (cap more than body or vice versa).

### **1. Capsule Receipt.**

Make sure that when capsules are received from they are not left on a loading dock or warm area. They should be immediately transferred to an area without direct sunlight or exposure to heat (see below).

### **2. Capsule Storage**

- a. Store capsules in a cool area of your pharmacy. Recommended conditions are 50-75°F. Storage up to 80°F is safe.
- b. Store capsules closer to the ground and not near the roof of your warehouse (this is the hottest area).
- c. Store capsules away from direct sunlight (e.g. windows and skylights) as it can raise the surface temperature of a carton, container or bag to 150°F and damage capsules near the surface of the container.
- d. Do not store empty capsules in freezers (below 50°F).

### **3. Capsule Filling**

Protect empty capsules from gaining moisture when the air is humid. They can lose their shape and become soft and sticky.

- a. Keep empty capsules in the sealed container we supply them in until you need to use them. After removing capsules make sure the container is properly closed to seal out moisture.
- b. Keep empty capsules covered when they are not being filled to minimize moisture gain. Even a container with a loose fitting lid provides more protection than a container without a lid. Store filled capsules in prescription containers or plastic containers with lids until they are dispensed.

*Information courtesy of Torpac<sup>®</sup>, Fairfield, NJ*