

Beyond Traditional Borders: Medicine Refrigeration Device



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Objectives

AIDS patients in the developing world need a device to properly refrigerate pediatric anti-retroviral therapy drugs. An effective solution will need to meet the following design criteria:

- Cooling, 2-8°C
- Portable, < 10 kg
- Duration. ~1 month •Low Cost, < \$75
 - - Concealable
- Durable

Refrigeration to Help Treat the AIDS Pandemic

- 24.5 million live with the disease
- 2.7 million new infections occurred last year
- Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART)
- Most effective means of combating HIV
- Pediatric ART drugs ≻Liquids
- 1981 1581 1586 2081
- ➤Must be stored at 2-8°C • Current storage methods ineff
- Medicine stored in clay pot underground
- Urgent need for solution
- Drugs now available for widespread distribution
- Conventional refrigeration not widely accessible

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Separation of medicine cooler and cooling chamber greatly increases efficiency and reduces run time.

CoolMEDS Design

Prototype Testing Results

- Continuous temperature monitoring
 - Water reservoir cooling
 - Starting temp. of 8°C
 - > TEC cools at approximately 1°C every 5 minutes
 - Medicine cooler warming
 - ➤Starting temperature of 2°C
 - > Device takes ~24 hours to warm to 8°C



Future Work

- Use larger TEC to increase cooling speed
- Add internal thermostat to indicate when to cycle device
- Use switch to automatically activate TEC
- Develop dispensing system through double door

Conclusion

- Current forms of medicine refrigeration grossly inadequate
- CoolMEDS is an effective solution
- Keeps medicine at required temperature for an extended time period
- o Low cost, portable, durable, and concealable.

