

Program Overview

STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCKPILE



How it Works

Taking a few small steps now to prepare for future public health emergencies will not only protect your greatest asset, your employees, but also help prepare the entire community to respond.

How it Works

GEORGIA STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCKPILE

40 Pryor Street SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

The Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) is a national repository of medical supplies and medication stored for use during emergency situations such as a natural disaster or bioterrorism attack. All of the supplies and medications are free but must be utilized under strict supervision.

Within 12 hours, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) can deploy a large shipment from SNS, known as a push pack to anywhere in the United States or its' territories. This allows for a supplement and resupply of medical resources at state and local health

departments. After the initial shipment, additional components such as event-specific products and other items from SNS may follow, these are known as managed inventory. Examples include antibiotics, antidotes, antivirals, vaccines and gloves.

State and local health districts in Georgia already have plans in place to receive and distribute SNS materiel to any affected population. Collaboration between public health and the private sector is critical for quickly and efficiently distributing SNS supplies.



Cities Readiness

In 2004, the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) program was introduced. It is a federally funded program to prepare major U.S. cities and metropolitan areas to dispense needed drugs and medical supplies within 48 hours of a decision to deploy. The pilot program began with 21 cities receiving funding. Metro Atlanta was one of them. The next two years several other cities were added and all continue to receive funding.

CRI in Georgia

Georgia has eighteen health districts that coordinate public health preparedness and response. The CRI encompasses 12 health districts that consist of 30 counties, also known as the Atlanta Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

Based on the 2010 U.S. Census the population of Georgia is 10-million, approximately 7-million live in the Atlanta MSA.



**CRI PILOT
CITIES:**

Phoenix, AZ
Los Angeles, CA
San Francisco, CA
San Diego, CA
Denver, CO
Miami, FL
Atlanta, GA
Chicago, IL
Boston, MA
Detroit, MI
Minneapolis, MN
St. Louis, MO
Las Vegas, NV
New York City, NY
Cleveland, OH
Philadelphia, PA
Pittsburgh, PA
Dallas, TX
Houston, TX
Seattle, WA
Washington D.C.

**CRI CITIES
YEAR 2:**

Baltimore, MD
Cincinnati, OH
Columbus, OH
Indianapolis, IN
Kansas City, MO
Milwaukee, WI
Orlando, FL
Portland, OR
Providence, RI
Riverside, CA
Sacramento, CA
San Antonio, TX
San Jose, CA
Tampa, FL
Virginia Beach, VA

**CRI CITIES
YEAR 3:**

Birmingham, AL
Anchorage, AK
Little Rock, AR
Fresno, CA
Hartford, CN
New Haven, CN
Dover, DE
Honolulu, HI
Boise, ID
Peoria, IL
Des Moines, IA
Wichita, KS
New Orleans, LA
Baton Rouge, LA
Portland, ME
Jackson, MI
Billings, MT
Omaha, NE
Manchester, NH
Trenton, NJ
Albuquerque, NM
Buffalo, NY
Albany, NY
Charlotte, NC
Fargo, ND
Oklahoma City, OK
Columbia, SC
Sioux Falls, SD
Nashville, TN
Memphis, TN
Salt Lake City, UT
Burlington, VT
Richmond, VA
Charleston, WV



BENEFITS OF CLOSED POINTS OF DISPENSING

Closed Points of Dispensing (PODs) will play an important role in any situation where it is necessary to provide emergency medications. Traditional medical providers, such as hospitals and medical clinics, will likely be overwhelmed during a large-scale public health emergency. Open PODs will also be highly stressed in a situation where the entire population needs to be given medications in a short time frame.

Closed PODs will help relieve some of the pressure on Open PODs by reaching specific portions of the community. As a result, long lines and public anxiety can be reduced and resources can be used more efficiently.

Closed PODs can also help organizations ensure employees are protected, and therefore are able to continue working and/or return to work more quickly. Employees will feel secure in knowing that their organization is willing to take the “extra step” to ensure that they and their families are taken care of during a public health emergency. As employees feel more confident in the steps your organization has taken to protect them, they will likely feel an increased sense of commitment and loyalty.

Ultimately, the need to serve the public and keep your organization running during a public health emergency is significant. Partnering with your local health district to become a Closed POD is crucial in protecting the health of your employees and your community while enabling recovery efforts on a local, regional and national scale.

Closed PODs provide:

- Information on the incident
- Ease of access to life-saving medications
- Quick dispensing of medications to your employees and their families
- Enhanced continuity of business operations

Imagine this scenario...

Whether by accident or as part of a terrorist or biological attack (such as anthrax) millions of people across Georgia could be at risk and in need of preventive medications immediately, including those in your community. Medical supplies will be depleted quickly, health officials will have to ask the CDC for help and supplies from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS).



The agencies activate their long standing and well rehearsed plans to dispense the medicine at special sites. Even with extensive preparation there are long lines at every site and millions of people are waiting in line for their medication. Many are stressed about missing work as they try to remain calm while enduring long waits and tempers begin to flare.

The situation could be very different for your organization because you planned ahead and are able to activate what is known as a Closed Point of Dispensing (POD). Your employees know they can avoid the Public/Open Point of Dispensing because they can get medication for themselves and their family at work. The process is quick and easy and your business will continue to run smoothly.

What is a Closed Point of Dispensing?

A Closed Point of Dispensing (POD) is a site organizations can use to provide medical counter measure to employees and their family members. The use of a Closed POD is an alternate method of dispensing that helps redirect some of the population away from Open/Public POD sites. A Closed Pod is primarily used by a specific group or organization, like colleges, universities, businesses and churches. It is not open to the public. Closed PODs save lives and prevent illness in an orderly and efficient process.

Criteria for becoming a Closed POD

- Facility to accommodate walk-in or drive thru operation
- Ability to provide security for entire dispensing operation (transport and dispensing)
- Medical personnel to oversee dispensing or to administer vaccine (if applicable)
- A significant number of employees in community (metro or rural)
- Designated points of contact to work with public health officials to develop Closed POD plans.

Medical Personnel Required

To become a Closed POD, you will need to have personnel available who can legally dispense medication in the State of Georgia. The medical personnel will ensure proper health, safety, and privacy measures are being observed. Check with your local health district for policies that apply to your jurisdiction.

Closed POD's must staff medical personnel to help ensure that proper health, safety, and privacy measures are being observed. In general, medical personnel staffed at PODs must include persons authorized to dispense medications in accordance with Georgia laws, Federal Regulations, and the Georgia Board of Pharmacy Board Rules, and the Georgia Medical Composite Board Rules and Regulations. For instance, personnel may include physicians, dentists, pharmacists, podiatrists, nurse practitioners, or other licensed health care professionals authorized under a proper delegation, protocol, or executive order. O.C.G.A. Sections 26-4-1 et seq., 16-13-1 et seq., 43-34-1 et seq., 38-3-51, and Ga. Rules and Regulations Chapters 480-28-.01 et seq. and 480-30-.01 et seq. For more information, contact your local health district or county health department.

Your business may have medical personnel already on staff, or you may choose to arrange for outside medical personnel to come to your location. Such an arrangement may require a standing agreement, such as an MOU/MOA, between your business and outside staff. This agreement should clearly lay out the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of all parties as well as an understanding of how the agreement will be activated at a time when their services are needed most.”



DISPENSING AT CLOSED POINTS OF DISPENSING

The ability to dispense medical countermeasures to affected populations quickly and efficiently is crucial following a catastrophic health event. Local authorities are working diligently to build the capacity to dispense medication to their entire populations within 48 hours.

Working with many different community partners and agencies, local public health departments are using innovative ways to reach their populations within this 48-hour window. The methods used in planning fall into two categories: pull and push.

PULL METHODS: Pull methods encourage the general public to come to identified locations at common areas within the community to receive medications. These locations usually consist

of fixed facilities such as schools, arenas, or other public buildings and are most often referred to as Open or Public PODs.

PUSH METHODS: Push methods are primarily designed to enhance the dispensing capability through alternate dispensing options. A Closed or Private POD is one example of a push method. The goal is to use the resources of partner organizations to dispense medication more quickly and reduce the number of people who have to go to the Open POD. Medications are “pushed” or delivered to partner organizations such as private businesses, universities, or large organizations and these partner organizations in turn provide the medication to their designated population.

An Open or Public POD is a location where the general public goes to receive emergency medications from public health officials.

A Closed or Private POD is a location that dispenses medications to a specific group of people. These groups may include employees, employees’ family members, service organization members, students, faculty, patients etc. Closed PODs are generally not open to the public.

Delivery or Pick up medication

You will be notified where and when medications are available for pick up or will be dropped off to your site. A site will be designated for Closed POD Partners to receive medications and necessary forms. A pre-designated amount of antibiotics for your organization is determined by the information provided on your registration form.

Dispense medication

Set up your dispensing operation, assemble materials, communicate with your employees and clients, screen for contraindications, and dispense medication.

Follow up

Your local health district will provide your assigned supervisor with scheduled status updates

of your organization's dispensing operation. Return completed client screening forms and any unopened or left over medication to your local health district after you have completed dispensing the medications.

Under a declared state of emergency, the governor may suspend pharmacy law to allow other personnel to dispense medications.

Why should your organization become a Closed POD?

Operating a Closed POD provides your business and employees extra security during a public health emergency. Essentially your business will have the means to help minimize the impact of the emergency on the community and save lives because your employees and their family

members will not need to report to an Open Point of Dispensing.

If your organization chooses to become a Closed POD, you will have a tremendous opportunity to combat the impact of a public health threat or emergency. Together with your local public health district, you will be able to address an assortment of public health issues in a groundbreaking way.

By becoming a Closed POD, your business will be better protected in the event of a public health emergency. You'll receive and dispense medications and medical supplies directly to your employees and their families. All we ask is that you provide the materials and support needed.



Your business will help to ensure the general health and well-being of not just your employees, but everyone affected by the public health emergency.

How Closed PODs fit into planning

Closed PODs will play an important role in any situation where it is necessary to provide emergency medications to the entire population. Traditional medical providers, such as hospitals and medical clinics will likely be overwhelmed during a large scale public health emergency. Public PODs also will become inundated in a situation where the entire population needs to be given medications in a short time frame.

Closed PODs will help relieve some of the pressure on Public PODs by reaching portions of the population independently. This can help alleviate long lines and public anxiety and allow resources to be used more efficiently.

Closed PODs can help businesses ensure their employees are protected and therefore able to continue working and/or return to work more quickly. Employees will feel secure in knowing that their company is willing to take the 'extra step' to ensure they are taken care of in the event of a public health emergency. When employees feel more confident in the steps their company has taken to protect them, they will likely feel an increased sense of commitment and loyalty.



Georgia Public Health Districts

1-1: Northwest (Rome)

1309 Redmond Road
NW
Rome, GA 30165
(706) 802-5624

1-2: North Georgia (Dalton)

100 West Walnut Ave.
Suite 92
Dalton, GA 30720
(706) 272-2342 ext 304

2-0: North (Gainesville)

1280 Athens Street
Gainesville, GA 30507
(770) 531-4505

3-1: Cobb/Douglas
1650 County Services
Parkway
Marietta, GA 30008
(770) 514-2333

3-2: Fulton
99 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive,
SE
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 613-1213

3-3: Clayton
1650 County Services
Parkway
Marietta, GA 30008
(770) 514-2333

**3-4: East Metro
(Lawrenceville)**
2570 Riverside
Parkway
P.O. Box 897
Lawrenceville, GA
30046-0897
(678) 442-6915

3-5: DeKalb
445 Winn Way
P. O. Box 987
Decatur, GA 30031
(404) 294-7300

4-0: LaGrange
122-A Gordon
Commercial Drive
LaGrange, GA 30240
(706) 302-8037

**5-1: South Central
(Dublin)**
2121-B Bellevue Road
Dublin, GA 31021
(478) 274-7600

**5-2: North Central
(Macon)**
811 Hemlock Street
Macon, GA 31201
(478) 751-6304

**6-0: East Central
(Augusta)**
1916 North Leg Road
Augusta, GA 30909-
4437
(706) 729-2190

**7-0: West Central
(Columbus)**
2100 Comer Ave
PO Box 2299
Columbus, GA 31902-
2299
(229) 838-0010

8-1: South (Valdosta)
600 N. Patterson Street
Valdosta, GA 31601
(229) 253-0714

**8-2: Southwest
(Albany)**
231 Tift Avenue
Albany, GA 31701
(229) 430-1966

**9-1: Coastal
(Savannah)**
150 Scranton
Connector
Brunswick, GA 31525
(912) 332-2128

**9-2 Southeast
(Waycross)**
1115 Church Street
Suite A
Waycross, GA 31501
(912) 338-5231

**10 Northeast
(Athens)**
189 Paradise Blvd
Athens, GA 30607
(706) 912-285-6022



