

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of a Closed DC83

To provide life-saving medications to an organization's population during a public health emergency.

Who can receive medical countermeasures at a Closed POD?

It is the decision of the organization as to the scope of their dispensing operations: Employees and/or family members.

Will training be provided?

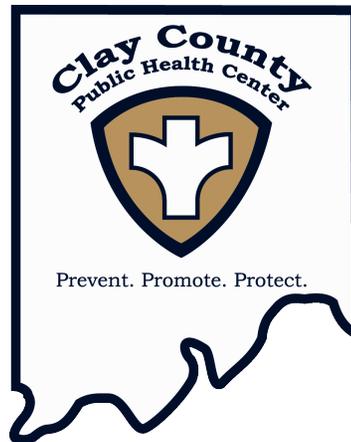
Yes, the organization will work with Clay County Public Health Center to develop and exercise emergency response plans

When will businesses be asked to dispense medical countermeasures at their facility?

The health center will ask businesses to dispense medications to their employees and their families once the public health administration has deemed it necessary during a public health event.

Is the memorandum of understanding (MOU) a legally binding document?

No, the MOU outlines the responsibilities and expectations for both the organization and the public health department. The organization can cancel the agreement at any time.



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Protecting Your Employees During Public Health Emergencies



Clay County Public
Health Center

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



Medical Countermeasure Dispensing To Your Population

The Program

Clay County Public Health Center has the responsibility of protecting the community in the event of a public health emergency. To stop the spread of disease, life saving medical countermeasures will be dispensed throughout the county within 48



hours of the beginning of the incident. Clay County Public Health Center will be working with the State of Missouri and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to get the appropriate amount of medical countermeasures to the Clay County population.

The Benefits

Closed point of dispensing (POD) participants provide a valuable service to their employees and families, and the community as a whole. By involving the private sector, participants can protect their employees from illness and minimize the impact upon internal operations. There is an increased likelihood that participant employees will come to work, improving an organization's ability to continue to operate efficiently, while maintaining economic stability.

Preparing Your Organization

Steps an organization needs to take in

- Develop a closed POD Plan
- Educate employees

Liability

The Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (Secretary) to issue a declaration (PREP Act declaration) that provides immunity from tort liability (except for willful misconduct) for claims of loss caused, arising out of, relating to, or resulting from administration or use of countermeasures to diseases, threats and conditions determined by the Secretary



constitute a present, or credible risk of a future public health emergency to entities and individuals involved in the development, manufacture, testing, distribution, administration, and use of such countermeasures. A PREP Act declaration is specifically for the purpose of providing immunity from tort liability, and is different from, and not dependent on, other emergency declarations. More information concerning liability can

be found under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) (Pub.L. 109-148).



Closed POD Responsibilities

Employers/Organizations/Facilities

- Identify staff to work with
- Develop a closed POD plan from a template
- Participate in predetermined and agreed upon training and exercise opportunities
- Dispense medications during a public health emergency following PHD guidance

Clay County Public Health Center

- Provide pre-event planning and technical assistance
- Provide Closed POD-specific training and education opportunities
- Provide 24-hour emergency contact information to POD point of contact
- Notify when to activate site, and provide medications, guidance, information and/or assistance as needed.