

1. Identify the location where the closed Point of Dispensing (POD) would be located.
2. Identify the medical professional who would be responsible for administering the Medication or Vaccine.
3. Determine the approximate number of employees and families who would receive medication in the closed POD.
4. Identify the lead person, who will work with the Health Department in developing the closed POD plan.
5. Contact the Health Department's Emergency Response Coordinator for further information and discussion on developing a closed POD



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## Calvert County Health Department

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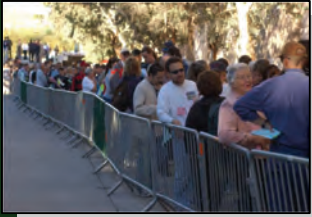
**PROTECTING YOUR  
ORGANIZATION DURING  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
EMERGENCIES**



**Are you ready to become a  
closed POD partner?**

## PREPARING FOR THE NEXT PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

No one can predict the next public health emergency. Unfortunately, a natural disaster or act of terrorism could happen at any time. Therefore, we have to be prepared to respond at a moment's notice. During a public health emergency, the general public is typically encouraged to come to common areas within the community like churches, schools and gymnasiums to receive medications. These locations will be highly stressed in a situation where the entire population needs to be given medications within a short time frame. Providing medicines through closed points of dispensing (PODs) is one method planners are utilizing to reach populations faster and relieve some of the burden placed on common dispensing sites.



**GOAL: Provide medicines to people within 48 hours**

## WE NEED YOUR HELP !

A Closed POD is a private location where medications are dispensed to a specific group of people. With the help of businesses, universities, community organizations, and military installations, we can decrease the number of people going to the same places for medicine during a public health emergency. Closed PODs help to reach specific portions of the community more quickly. As a result, long lines and public anxiety can be reduced and resources can be used more efficiently.

### Benefits our community

- ✓ Helps achieve the community dispensing goal more rapidly
- ✓ Decreases the number of people served in open PODs

### Benefits your organization

- ✓ Protects your organization and your families
- ✓ Helps to ensure your organization's continuity of operations

**Calvert County Health Department** will work closely with your organization to ensure that you have the needed information and resources to establish a closed POD. As with all preparedness activities, the more we communicate and exercise our response plans now, the better we will respond if an emergency occurs.

## OUR ROLE

- ✓ Pre-event planning and technical assistance
- ✓ Training and education
- ✓ Providing medications during an emergency
- ✓ Assisting with closed POD activation, operation and recovery activities

## YOUR ROLE

- ✓ Developing a closed POD plan
- ✓ Participating in trainings and exercises
- ✓ Maintaining the necessary supplies and equipment needed to operate a closed POD
- ✓ Dispensing medications following guidance provided by **Calvert County Health Department**.

## PROTECT WHAT MEANS MOST TO YOU

We can provide medicines to people within 48 hours. Our goal can be reached with your help. Becoming a closed POD partner with **Calvert County Health Department** is a significant step in helping protect the health and safety of your organization, your family, and our community.