

How can I help during an emergency?

Medical and non-medical volunteers are needed to support local public health officials at a POD and for other public health initiatives. Sign-up as an Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corps volunteer at www.okmrc.org and take the online orientation today!



Get Involved



Caring, Capable and Ready

Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corps
www.OKMRC.org/

Learn More

OSDH—Emergency Preparedness
[http://www.ok.gov/health/
Disease, Prevention, Preparedness/
Emergency Preparedness and Response/](http://www.ok.gov/health/Disease_Prevention_Preparedness/Emergency_Preparedness_and_Response/)

**Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention**
www.emergency.cdc.gov

**Contact your local County
Health Department for more
information to see if your
work site is or can be part
of a Push Partner program*.**

**The Push Partner program is applicable to agencies with medical personnel available to provide medicine or vaccines to employees, employee family members and clients. Check with your employer to see if they have a Push Partner plan already in place.*



**Creating
a State
of Health**

Getting Medicine During a Public Health Emergency

Emergency Medicine at Points of Dispensing

- ✓ ***Where to go***
- ✓ ***What to bring***
- ✓ ***How to get involved***



**Oklahoma State Department of Health
Emergency Preparedness & Response
Strategic National Stockpile Program**

What is a Point of Dispensing?

A **Point of Dispensing (POD)** is a place where you can get medicine or vaccines that will help keep you from getting sick in a public health emergency.

The goal of the POD is to make sure that **anyone that needs medicine can get it.**



Why would a POD be opened?

A POD would be opened if there was a need to distribute medicine quickly to many people due to:

- An outbreak of a disease that is easily spread from person to person such as Hepatitis A
- or
- An uncommon event like an anthrax attack

How will I know where my POD is located?

A POD location is usually:

- In a large public building like a local school or community center
- Chosen by cities and towns before an emergency, but the locations may not be announced until an emergency actually happens

To find out more about the locations and hours of the POD closest to you in an emergency, check:

- Local radio & television
- Newspapers
- City and town web sites
- Oklahoma State Department of Health website: www.ok.gov/health

What do I need to bring to the POD?

Bring the following for you **and anyone else** you're picking up medicine for:

- List of medicines being taken
- List of allergies to medicines
- List of health conditions
- List of the ages and approximate weights of any children
- Completed medical form available online or in newspapers

What do I need to know about getting medicine or a vaccine at a POD?

During a public health emergency:

- A specific medicine or vaccine will be **free to everyone** (if available)
- You will not be asked for ID
- You will not be asked about your immigration status
- If bottles of pills are needed, only one person needs to go to the POD to pick up the medicine for the entire household
- If vaccines are needed, everyone will need to go to the POD to get their vaccine
- Forms may be available to fill out before arriving at a POD

Will I have to wait in line to get my medicine?

Lines may be long so you should:

- Bring water and snacks for waiting in line
- Be sure to wear comfortable, weather-appropriate clothing
- Stay calm
- Check with your employer to see if they are a Push Partner. If so, you may be able to receive meds at work and not have to wait in line.

A POD will not treat sick people. State and local public health officials will tell you the best place to go for medical care during the emergency.

