Closed Point of Dispensing Partnerships

Overview

Public Health Emergency Preparedness
A Point Of Dispensing (POD) is a dispensing point for vaccinations or medications, generally used during the time of a Public Health Emergency- i.e. pandemic influenza, or a bioterrorism attack.
Closed vs Open POD

- **Open** - all members of community can come to
  - Emphasis is on rapid dispensing of a pill or shot that ensures the **well remain well** to those in the community
  - Depends upon pre-planning on a large (county- or city-wide) scale

- **Closed** - NOT open to community members at large, instead, it serves a very specific type of person/place
  - Nursing homes, jails, prisons
  - Large factories/warehouses
  - Need infrastructure such as medical staff
  - Depends on pre-planning on a facility-wide level
Benefits of a Closed POD

- **Benefits the community**
  - Helps achieve community dispensing goal more rapidly
  - Decreases the number of people at local Open PODs and/or local health facilities
- **Benefits the organization**
  - Protects staff and their families
  - Helps to ensure organizations’ continuity of operations and resiliency
  - Exhibits organizations’ commitment to residents, patients, clients and employees
Rationale for Nursing Homes, LTC, Prison’s

- Protects the residents, patients, clients or employees
  - Many of the residents/patients would enter the clinic process, only to be triaged to their PCP, due to co-morbidities

- Protects the facility

- Infrastructure already in place
  - Give pills/shots to residents every day

- Relieves the facility of the burden of transporting Residents to Community (Open) POD
  - Keeps residents safer by not exposing them to more pathogens and moving fragile patients
Rationale for Organizations

- Protects staff and families
- Protects the facility
- Allows for continuity of operations
- Ensures community POD’s remain streamlined
DSHS Responsibilities

• Assist in development of Closed POD planning
• Provide Closed POD planning tools, templates and ongoing technical assistance
• Provide Closed POD training and education
• Develop guidelines to ensure safe dispensing of medication
• Provide all medication and accompanying information sheets for dispensing
• Provide Standing Delegation Orders
Closed POD Responsibilities

- Coordinate with local government (especially Judges and Emergency Management Coordinators) and DSHS
- Develop a Closed POD plan
  - Determine dispensing location
  - Determine storage space for medications, vaccines etc.
  - Develop procedures for the closed POD
    - Coordination with parent company and local authorities
    - Activation and/or staff recall procedures
    - Security planning
    - Receipt of medication
    - Dispensing procedures
- Provide medical staff and supplies
- Participate in training and exercise opportunities
- Operate a Closed POD during an emergency
Closed POD Initiative Strategy Goals

- Nursing Homes
  - Staggered Implementation throughout the State
- Long Term Care
- Assisted Living Homes
- Mental Institutions
- State Supported Living Centers
- TDCJ Prison facilities
- County Jails
- Private Business
Health Service Region 1 - Who to contact

- **Lubbock**
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  - Liz Broadstreet
  - Sandra Perez
  - 6302 Iola Dr.
  - Lubbock, Texas
  - 806-744-3577

- **Canyon Sub-Office**
  - Jordan Coulson
  - Rick Tull
  - William McDowell
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  - Canyon, Texas
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- Kelly Northcott, Manager