

POD: Point of Dispensing



Health threats where a POD may be activated:

• **Exposure to Infectious Disease**

Hepatitis A in a food handler

• **Infectious Disease Outbreaks**

Measles; Pandemic Influenza

• **Natural Disasters**

Distribution of essential supplies (bottled water, food)

• **Bioterrorism**

An intentional release (or claimed release) of a chemical or biological agent, such as Anthrax and Smallpox (and other Category A agents)

• **Disease Surveillance**

A large number of ill persons or unusual illness; unexplained disease or deaths

What is a “POD?”

A Point of Dispensing (POD) is a place where vaccines, antibiotics, and other medications or supplies can be quickly dispensed to a large number of people.

A POD may be opened to prevent exposure to an infectious disease or treat an infectious disease outbreak. A POD may also be used to respond to a range of public health events or emergencies.

POD Services

In addition to the primary service of dispensing emergency prophylaxis, a POD will often provide secondary client services.

Examples of secondary client services offered in a POD include Behavioral Health (Support), emergency treatment for anaphylactic shock (Aid), and translation services.

A POD is designed to:

Dispense vaccine or medication quickly and accurately

Maintain a safe environment for staff and the public

Serve all clients, including those with functional needs (language and literacy barriers, physical and cognitive disabilities, elders and children)

Expand or contract to the needs of the operation

Provide adequate staffing for the duration of the operation.

POD Locations in Northern NH

Colebrook Elementary School

Lancaster Elementary School

Berlin High School

Profile Middle/High School

Littleton High School

Haverhill Middle School





Volunteer patients registering at the North Country Colebrook POD walk-through exercise September 2013

POD Process

The basic POD process can be described in four steps:

1) Fill out form



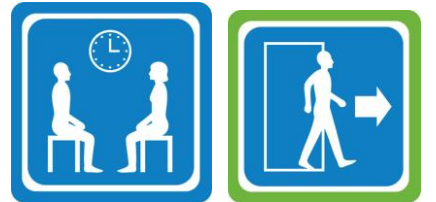
2) Show Forms



3) Get Treatment



4) Exit



Want to Get Involved?

The North Country Health Consortium / North Country Public Health Network is looking for volunteer patients for our 2014 POD walk-through exercises!
*Lunch provided

Berlin POD Exercise

Saturday, March 22nd
9:00am-1:00pm

Lancaster POD Exercise

Saturday, April 5th
10:30am-1:00pm

Volunteers will be playing the roles of patients in need of a specific vaccine or medication. Patients will be walking through the POD facility, completing the four basic steps of the POD process. These walk-through events will ensure a community's ability to respond to an unlikely emergency or outbreak.

To volunteer, please contact
Hillary Pakus at hpakus@nchcnh.org
Amy Holmes at aholmes@nchcnh.org
Elaine Belanger at ebelanger@nchcnh.org

