Texas Department of State Health Services
Health Service Region 1
Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Strategic National Stockpile
Security Overview
for Law Enforcement
Acronyms to know

• DSHS = Department of State Health Services
• HSR = Health Service Region
• PHEP = Public Health Emergency Preparedness
• SNS = Strategic National Stockpile
• POD = Point of Dispensing
• RSS = Receiving, Staging, Storage
• DPS = Texas Department of Public Safety
• LE = Law Enforcement
• CDC = Center for Disease Control and Prevention
# DSHS HSR1 at a glance

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Why Prepare?

1918 Influenza Epidemic

• Over 25 percent of the U.S. population affected.
• In one year, the average life expectancy in the United States dropped by 12 years.

Fact: The 1918 influenza epidemic killed more people than that of World War I; an estimated 50 million people died as a result of influenza as compared to 16 million as a result of WWI.

2001 Anthrax letters
22 affected 11 inhalation, 11 cutaneous cases.
5 died (all inhalation).
Approximately 10,000 people received 2 month supply of prophylaxis.

2009 H1N1

• First influenza pandemic in 40 years.
• 57 million cases of H1N1 in U.S.
• 257,000 H1N1 hospitalizations.
• 11,690 H1N1 related deaths.
Strategic National Stockpile

• Background:
  • An act of terrorism, infectious disease event, or a major natural disaster may create a large-scale public health emergency that would require rapid access to large quantities of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies.

• Mission:
  • The SNS program was established to maintain strategically located stockpiles of large quantities of essential medical materiel that could be delivered quickly to states and local communities impacted by a large-scale public health emergency.

• Purpose:
  • To provide mass prophylaxis to the population at risk within 48 hours of the decision to deploy the SNS in response to a large-scale public health emergency.
Strategic National Stockpile
SNS Security Strategy

• The State of Texas has developed a SNS security strategy that involves law enforcement agencies from the federal level to the local level.

• This strategy will result in the most efficient and effective method for protecting life-saving medical equipment/supplies, pharmaceutical countermeasures, and Texas citizens who are distributing and dispensing these supplies from the SNS.
The State of Texas strategy for protecting SNS assets and materiel are as follows:

- RSS Site Security Operations are coordinated and provided by Texas DPS.
- POD Site Security Operations are coordinated and provided by local LE such as City Police Departments and/or County Sheriff Offices.
SNS Security Strategy

- SNS Deployment
- RSS
- Local POD
- Closed POD
- POD sites
Point of Dispensing (POD)

• The dispensing of medications, vaccine or antivirals through PODs is a core function of the SNS preparedness plan.
  • The objective is to maximize the number of people receiving prophylaxis to ensure the protection of the largest possible segment of the population.
  • It is the most complex and challenging of all the functions since large numbers of persons must be provided medication, vaccine or antivirals quickly when an event occurs.
The arrival of SNS assets will be newsworthy and may make SNS operations a magnet for persons unwilling to wait for the planned dispensing of drugs.

A good security plan is crucial!
Texas SNS Program Manual
Chapter 7 - Security

• Developing a comprehensive Security Plan is critical to the successful receipt, distribution and dispensing of SNS assets during a public health emergency.

• A large public health emergency will likely produce many casualties and it will also produce concern, fear and perhaps panic within an affected community.
POD Security Planning

- The CDC requires the following items be included in a written POD security plan:
  - Security and vulnerability assessment for each facility (location and strengths/weaknesses per location)
  - Interior/Exterior physical security (i.e., security sweeps, number of personnel, shifts, barriers, crowd/traffic control)
  - Access Control/Identification plans (staging areas for POD personnel, badging for POD personnel, incoming/outgoing vehicular traffic)
  - Communication plans (radio channel assignments, coordinated messaging between Law Enforcement organizations)
  - Security breach plans (evacuation plans and routes)
POD Security Planning

• Each individual POD location should have a written security plan that addresses:
  • Identification of a POD Site Primary Security Lead and Backup Security Lead
  • Analysis of the surrounding area
  • Potential areas of risk and hazards
  • Specific measures to safeguard POD personnel and general public
  • Specific measures to safeguard SNS
Maps - Location

Any High School
Maps – Traffic Plan
Photos – Traffic Flow
Photos – Parking

- POD
- NORTH
- MAIN PARKING LOT
- OVERFLOW PARKING LOT
POD Security Planning

• The main goal of a POD is to get pills into people. Things like warrant arrests could take security staff away from the POD

• It is important that each POD site is safe and the flow of people through the POD is controlled and swift

• A sweep of the POD site prior to public opening is important.

• Participation in SNS POD training and exercises is important
Security Plan Documentation

• The CDC requires DSHS to provide Security Plan Documentation that indicates proof of completed written security plans for all RSS and POD sites in HSR 1.
• The actual security plan is not required, only a signed form acknowledging a plan has been completed is needed.
• Please sign and submit your security plan documentation!
I ______________________________ have completed a written Security Plan on the following location:

Location name: ______________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip: ______________________________________________________

and I submit this document as proof of completion of said Security Plan.

Signature: ____________________________________________________________

Title: ________________________________________________________________

Agency: ______________________________________________________________

Date: __________________________________________________________________

Please mail or fax this completed form to
DSHS, HSR 1 SNS Program
WTAMU Box 60968
Canyon, Texas 79016-0968
Fax: (806) 655-7159 Attn. Rick Tull

Any questions please call 806-477-1140 or email rick.tull@dshs.state.tx.us
Other Planning Considerations

• Local LE may be requested to provide security at hospitals, doctor’s offices, pharmacies or other locations where medication may be obtained.

• It is likely that in a large public health emergency, there will not be an adequate number of law enforcement personnel available to fulfill all assistance requests.
Closed POD Security

• Traditional dispensing operations rely upon “pulling” the general population to a POD Site to receive medication.

• There are certain segments of society that will be unable to visit a POD Site and medication will have to be “pushed” out to them. We call these Closed PODs.

• Local LE could be asked to provide security during transport of medication throughout their community to these Closed PODs.
Closed POD Examples

- Hospitals
- Jails, youth correctional facilities, prisons
- Assisted living facilities
- Nursing homes
- State schools
- Group homes
- Homeless shelters
- Colleges/Universities
- Private Businesses
Staff Shortages

• It is believed that in a pandemic influenza, all businesses will see 30-40% of personnel out sick or home with sick family members.
• How will your agency provide service with a shortage of personnel?
• Have you determined where you can find assistance?
• Will you require security staff to be certified peace officers?
• What about services that your agency relies on?
Staff Shortages

Possible examples to augment security staff
• Game and Fish
• Railroad Police
• DA Investigators
• Probation/Parole Officers
• Constables
• Texas State Guard
• Retired Law Enforcement Officers
• Prison Officers
• Private Security Companies
First Responder POD?

• How will you and your staff get prophylaxis?
• Will you get it at the same time as the general public or is there a plan to treat first responders prior to mass dispensing?
• Is there a First Responder POD plan in your jurisdiction?
• Do you know the plan? Who does?
• Do you know where the First Responder POD is located for your jurisdiction?
• *Start planning, training and exercising NOW!*
SNS Contact Information

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