



# South Central Mountain Regional Task Force

## STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCKPILE PROGRAM: FACT SHEET

### **What is the SNS?**

The U.S. Public Health Service Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) has large quantities of medicine and medical supplies available to supplement local supplies in the event of a public health emergency (terrorist attack, flu outbreak, earthquake). If requested by the Governor, supplies are delivered to a centralized location and redistributed. The medicine and medical supplies in the SNS are free. The SNS, however, is a replacement and not a first response tool, and provides supplies for both ill populations through the health care system or potentially exposed but well populations through Point of Dispensing (POD) sites.

### **What does the SNS consist of?**

The SNS consists of “Push Packs” or pre-packaged medical supplies, and “Managed Inventories” of pharmaceuticals. SNS “Push Packs” can be delivered to hospital facilities in approximately 12 hours. Additionally, both prophylactic doses (for staff and families) and treatment doses are delivered and handled through the hospital system. The “sick” or “exposed” population is addressed through this component of the SNS Plan. Alternatively, the “well” population is addressed prophylactically through the provision of pharmaceuticals at Point of Dispensing (POD) sites.

### **Where are POD sites and who staffs a POD?**

POD sites are identified in each county to service up to 20,000 people, operating on 12-hour shifts. Staff are pre-identified and trained to operate at a POD. Both critical workers (e.g. emergency responders and POD personnel) and their families receive initial doses of medications. Contingency plans are in place to transport symptomatic individuals from PODs to hospitals. Many PODs are located at schools, and school staff, as well as other interested community members, are encouraged to volunteer to assist with local mass medication distribution.

### **What about those who cannot come to a POD?**

A final component of the SNS program places medications in the hands of special populations, such as college clinics or home health services, who are capable of self-medicating a population who cannot visit PODs.

### **Where can I find additional information?**

Designed to protect the health of the public, the South Central Mountain SNS Plan stands ready to meet the pharmaceutical needs of the region subsequent to a disaster or terrorist attack. For additional information contact your County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) or:

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## South Central Mountain Regional Task Force SNS: POD Activation: Flow Chart

