

The Gloucester County Division of Public Health administers and oversees the Closed POD Program for the County. Gloucester County is committed to recruiting and assisting organizations interested in participating in this program. Expanding the registration of participating Closed PODs within our jurisdiction enhances our capability to respond to potential public health emergencies.

Gloucester County Division of Public Health will work closely with your organization to ensure that you have the needed information and resources to establish a closed POD.

NEXT STEPS

1. If you are interested in learning more about the Closed POD Program please contact Gloucester County Department of Health at 856-218-4131
2. Schedule a date for Gloucester County to come to your facility to discuss the program
3. Sign up to become a Closed POD
4. Develop a plan for distribution of medication to your employees & families
5. Inform your employees about their new Benefit
6. Exercise your plan with Gloucester County Department of Public Health

Gloucester County Department of
Health & Human Services
204 East Holly Ave
Sewell NJ, 08080
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Robert M. Damminger, Freeholder Director

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The County of Gloucester complies with all state and federal rules and regulations against discrimination in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, and activities. In addition, County encourages participation of people with disabilities in its programs and activities and offers special services to all residents 60 years of age and older. Inquiries regarding compliance may be directed to the County's ADA Coordinator at (856) 384-6842/ New Jersey Relay Service 711.



**PROTECTING YOUR
EMPLOYEES DURING
PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCIES**



**Are you ready to become a
Closed POD partner?**

PREPARING FOR THE NEXT PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

No one can predict the next public health emergency. Unfortunately, a natural disaster or act of terrorism could happen at any time.

Therefore, we have to be prepared to respond to our community at a moment's notice. During a public health emergency, the general public will be encouraged to come to designated locations in the community to receive lifesaving antibiotics to prevent disease and death. These locations are called open Points of Distribution (PODs).

PODs will be highly stressed in a situation where the entire population needs to be given medications within a short time frame. Providing antibiotics through Closed PODs is an alternate method of antibiotic distribution that Gloucester County Health is utilizing to reach populations faster and relieve some of the burden placed on open distribution sites.

WE NEED YOUR HELP !

A Closed POD is a private location where medications are distributed to a specific group of people. With the help of businesses, universities, community organizations, and churches we can decrease the number of people going to the same places for antibiotics during a public health emergency. Closed PODs help to reach specific portions of the community more quickly. As a result, long lines and public anxiety can be reduced and resources can be used more efficiently.

As a designated Closed POD, your agency will distribute antibiotics to your staff and family members, preventing your staff from having to attend a public POD and perhaps wait in line for hours to receive antibiotics.

Closed POD agencies provide a valuable service to their employees and families. Your employees will appreciate your concern for their health and well-being, and the convenience of receiving medications at their workplace.

Benefits to your organization

- ✓ Protects your organization and your families
- ✓ Helps to ensure your organization's continuity of operations

OUR ROLE

- ✓ Pre-event planning and technical assistance
- ✓ Training and education
- ✓ Providing free antibiotics during an emergency
- ✓ Assisting with Closed POD activation, operation and recovery activities

YOUR ROLE

- ✓ Developing a distribution plan
- ✓ Participating in trainings and exercises
- ✓ Maintaining the necessary supplies and equipment needed to operate a Closed POD
- ✓ Distributing medications following guidance provided by the [New Jersey State Department of Health](#).

PROTECT WHAT MEANS MOST TO YOU

Carrying out your own antibiotic distribution increases the likelihood that employees will come to work during an emergency once they know that their family members are protected. This allows your facility to continue to function, thereby increasing your bottom line, while providing a valuable service to the community.