

**OHIO EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN  
EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION #8  
Tab B – CHEMPACK Plan**

**CHEMPACK PLAN**

**LEAD AGENCY:** Ohio Department of Health (ODH)

**SUPPORT AGENCIES:** Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA)  
Division of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS)  
Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP)  
Ohio Homeland Security (OHS)

**I. INTRODUCTION**

- A. This plan provides an overview of the coordination of the State of Ohio’s CHEMPACK Program. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) established CHEMPACK as a voluntary participation program for the forward placement of sustainable repositories of nerve agent antidotes in numerous locations throughout the United States. CHEMPACK materiel is intended to be rapidly accessible for the treatment of affected persons.
- B. The Ohio Department of Health maintains an Operational Plan for the management of the CHEMPACK Program.
- C. Under the CHEMPACK program, the CDC’s Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Program will:
  - 1. Maintain ownership of the CHEMPACK stockpile.
  - 2. Place antidotes in numerous strategically placed containers under controlled and monitored storage conditions for use in the event of an incident involving nerve agents.
  - 3. Implement strategies to maximize the shelf life of the antidotes to minimize re-Procurement costs and maintain quality, specifically through the Federal Drug Administration’s (FDA) Shelf Life Extension Program (SLEP).
  - 4. CDC’s CHEMPACK program allows the Ohio Department of Health to maintain accountability and the centralized control of the federal CHEMPACK caches to fulfill the criteria for the SLEP program while making the caches immediately available to state and local authorities.
  - 5. To meet the objectives of CHEMPACK deployment, states and the SNS Program incur specific responsibilities as set forth below.

- D. The State of Ohio will manage the CHEMPACK Program and will oversee the receipt, storage, monitoring, maintenance and deployment of CHEMPACK Program assets.

## **II. SITUATION**

- A. The CHEMPACK Program provides for the forward placement of federally owned nerve agent antidotes in the State of Ohio.
- B. Depending on the dose and route of exposure, nerve agents can cause immediate nervous system failure and death, or symptom onset can be delayed for hours. Nerve agent antidotes include:
  - 1. Atropine sulfate, which blocks the effects of excess acetylcholine at its site of action.
  - 2. Pralidoxime chloride (2-PAM), which reactivates acetylcholinesterase, and therefore reduces the levels of acetylcholine.
  - 3. Diazepam, which reduces the severity of acetylcholine-induced convulsions that can contribute to death or long term neurological effects in survivors.
- C. The CDC's SNS Program has numerous caches of medical equipment, pharmaceuticals and vaccines in strategic locations throughout the United States. The CDC SNS Program maintains a 12-hour response time to the states, however, this response time is inadequate in the event of a nerve agent release, when treatment must be accomplished quickly in order to save lives. Since the availability of nerve agent antidotes on emergency vehicles is limited and hospitals maintain limited supplies of these antidotes, CHEMPACK was developed to fill this gap.
- D. ODH and the support agencies to this Tab work together to maintain program and system accountability and the centralized control of the caches to fulfill the criteria for the SLEP program, while making the caches immediately available to state and local authorities in case of an actual event involving nerve agents.
- E. The support agencies to this Tab have specific responsibilities as listed in the Assignment of Responsibilities, below, to manage the CHEMPACK Program and oversee the receipt, storage, monitoring, maintenance and deployment of CHEMPACK Program assets.

## **III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

- A. The Ohio Department of Health's SNS CHEMPACK Point of Contact (ODH POC) and the CDC SNS CHEMPACK POC (CDC POC) will coordinate directly.
- B. The Lead Agency for this plan is the Ohio Department of Health.

- C. Notification and Communication: see below, and also see Paragraph V (Organization and Assignment of Responsibility).
- D. CHEMPACK Program Control
1. Diazepam is a DEA schedule IV controlled substance; security must be maintained at all times..
  2. Access to CHEMPACK will be controlled at each cache site by a designated point of contact in coordination with the ODH POC. The POCs will ensure access is limited to pre-designated staff, positively identified, with a justified need to access the cache.
  3. A master roster for keys and control access will be developed and maintained by each of the participating cache sites.
  4. The POCs must realize once a box is opened, that box containing CHEMPACK assets are no longer eligible for the Shelf Life Extension Program (SLEP), and this action results in the loss of that asset for future use once its shelf life expires.
  5. Any access to CHEMPACK Program assets must be reported immediately to the ODH POC by the cache site POC.
- E. CHEMPACK Program Monitoring and Maintenance
1. CHEMPACK materiel is in the federal Shelf Life Extension Program (SLEP).
  2. Temperature control must be maintained by the cache site at all times except during transport to a nerve agent event, or during brief transports for repositioning.
  3. The CDC POC will remotely monitor via centrally-located automated monitoring devices.
  4. At any time, the CDC POC may request the ODH POC to physically inspect CHEMPACK containers.
  5. SLEP re-inspection will be conducted jointly by the ODH POC, the CDC POC an FDA SLEP representative, and the cache site's POC or their representative.
  6. CHEMPACK sustainment will be conducted jointly by the ODH POC, the CDC POC, and cache sites' POCs or their representatives.

## F. CHEMPACK Use and Operations

1. A declaration of emergency by the Governor of Ohio is NOT required to use the CHEMPACK contents.
  2. The CDC and the ODH will authorize breaking the CHEMPACK container seal and using the packaged products only when a competent authority, as defined in section F paragraph 3 below, in coordination with an incident commander at the scene or in a hospital, determines an accidental or intentional nerve agent or organophosphate (OP) release has occurred and has put multiple lives at risk; is beyond local emergency response capabilities; has threatened the medical security of the community; and that use of the materiel is medically necessary to save lives.
  3. Containers will be opened only by a competent local medical control authority, and only when it is deemed that the situation is beyond local response capabilities. A competent authority is defined as a credentialed medical professional who is required to immediately treat for chemical exposure.
  4. Once a box that contains CHEMPACK assets is opened, that box is no longer eligible for the Shelf Life Extension Program (SLEP) and will result in the loss of that CHEMPACK asset for future use once the drug content expiration dates have been achieved. There is no funding for restocking.
  5. Transportation of CHEMPACK supplies to sites will follow the guidance set forth in reference to information contained in ODH's CHEMPACK Program Operational Plan.
- G. CHEMPACK's treatment supplies will be used in accordance with dosing guidance available in reference to information contained in ODH's CHEMPACK Program Operational Plan.
- H. Pre-positioning of CHEMPACK assets for special events (major public gatherings, VIP events, etc.)
1. The State of Ohio will authorize a site to move CHEMPACK containers, with advanced notice to ODH, for designated special events (e.g., national special security events, major political conventions, major public gatherings and key summits) on a temporary basis. The temporary movement of CHEMPACK assets are subject to the conditions set forth in ODH's CHEMPACK Program Operational Plan.

## I. CHEMPACK Re-Supply After Use

1. Once a CHEMPACK box is opened, that box is no longer eligible for the Shelf Life Extension Program (SLEP)
2. After the crisis phase has passed, the POC will coordinate with the ODH POC for the return of any remaining treatment supplies. The POC will maintain asset accountability and will report results to the ODH POC, who will report to the CDC POC.
3. Disposal of resulting medical waste is the responsibility of the receiving treatment facility or agency. Waste will not be returned to the cache site(s).
4. If a CHEMPACK container was inadvertently opened or damaged by a natural act, the cache site POC will inventory and report in the same manner as above. The CDC SNS Program will not automatically replace any CHEMPACK materiel, even those used in response to an actual nerve agent event.
5. The ODH POC will determine the cost of used or non re-packable contents, and will negotiate any credit available from CDC SNS.
6. Once a CHEMPACK container is decommissioned, all remaining items obtained in the loan agreement must be returned to the CDC CHEMPACK POC.

## J. Training

1. The ODH POC will control and maintain two training containers for the purposes of training and display. These are available upon request and scheduling with ODH. The ODH POC will deliver and pick up the training containers as needed. The requestor is responsible for wear, tear and replacement of damaged training materiel.
2. CHEMPACK training will cover the following topics:
  - a. Training aids and support available.
  - b. Confidentiality.
  - c. Responsibilities associated with assuming custody.
  - d. Receiving and further distribution of treatment supplies.
  - e. Individual vials may not be relabeled with their new, extended, shelf life but they are still good regardless and will be used.
  - f. Antidote dosing and administration of treatment (field, transport and hospital).
  - g. Supportive care issues (ventilation, eye/skin/oral care, etc.).

- h. Returning unused treatment supplies, and disposing of waste.
3. ODH, EMS and Ohio EMA will develop and conduct training and exercises for activation and deployment as needed.

#### **IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY**

- A. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Strategic National Stockpile Program (CDC SNS Program):
  1. Retain ownership of all CHEMPACK materiel to ensure the integrity of the pharmaceuticals for the SLEP, until or unless CHEMPACK assets are used.
  2. Provide resources and assets required to sample, restock, re-label, and dispose of non-waste CHEMPACK materiel subject to the SLEP.
  3. Monitor and conduct periodic quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) inspections to verify inventory, storage conditions and security of CHEMPACK materiel.
  4. Provide resources and assets required to perform surveillance and QA/QC of CHEMPACK assets over the life of the Program.
  5. Conduct, in coordination with the State of Ohio, re-inspection and re-inventory following a report of unauthorized access.
- B. Ohio Department of Health (ODH POC)
  1. Maintain, in coordination with cache site POCs, a current list of personnel with access to the CHEMPACK containers at each cache location.
  2. Ensure that storage facilities have the capability to rapidly move CHEMPACK materiel when required.
  3. Notify the CDC CHEMPACK Logistics Team within two hours if a CHEMPACK cache storage location loses climate control capabilities.
  4. Ensure that cache storage locations apply resources and assets to correct non-complying environmental and security conditions in a timely manner (usually within two hours).
  5. Designate local health authorities for breaking the CHEMPACK container seal and using the products only when it is determined that an accidental or intentional nerve agent release has threatened the public health security of the community. POCs agree to

maintain an unbroken seal on all CHEMPACK containers and to use the materiel only when they determine other means to save human life will not be sufficient.

6. Authorize the preemptive movement of CHEMPACK containers to facilitate response during state-designated special events.
- C. Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA)
1. Assist with the coordination, development, training and exercise of CHEMPACK.
- D. Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS)
1. Assist ODH in the development of statewide training for CHEMPACK activation.
  2. Assist ODH with maintaining and coordinating CHEMPACK training for the State of Ohio.
  3. Develop, and as needed revise, statewide treatment protocols for Emergency Medical Systems and hospitals.
  4. Develop continuing education for EMS and hospital personnel.
  5. Assure that EMS staff is continually trained on CHEMPACK request procedures.
- E. Points of Contact (POC) at Cache Locations
1. Maintain the assignment of a responsible person, and one backup person, to serve as cache site POC to assume custody of the CHEMPACK container.
  2. Provide 24/7/365 Point of Contact information to ODH POC for primary and secondary persons responsible for administrative, activation, back-up and security.
  3. Provide 24/7/365 POC information for emergency activation of the CHEMPACK at CHEMPACK cache locations.
  4. Maintain CHEMPACK security according to guidance received from the CDC fielding team and the ODH POC.
  5. Maintain a master key control roster and a master access roster and keep ODH POC updated on any changes.
  6. Control access procedures in coordination with the ODH POC.
  7. Develop and maintain an internal policy or procedure, compliant with the Ohio CHEMPACK Program Operational Plan that identifies the roles and responsibilities for use and deployment of CHEMPACK.

8. Ensure that CHEMPACK assets are available 24/7/365, using on-site materiel retrieval personnel.
  9. Respond to and correct temperature control and/or unauthorized access issues.
  10. Ensure that the POC or other authorized person will sign a loan agreement acknowledging no CHEMPACK use except in response to real-world event.
- F. Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of Ohio Homeland Security (OHS)
1. Maintain the OSHP HUB/Columbus Communication Center's Contact Information Management Systems (CIMS) 24/7/365 Points of Contact roster and site location of all CHEMPACK assets.
  2. Annually, test all emergency CHEMPACK POC contact numbers.
- G. Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP)
1. Provide or support the transportation of all CHEMPACK supplies to staging sites or hospitals.
  2. Provide OSHP dispatch and posts with the proper training and exercises for CHEMPACK plans and procedures.
  3. In the event of a CHEMPACK activation, notify the cache site POC of all known information about the incident, particularly size and locale upon initial call-up.