



## Point of Dispensing Sites Overview



# Purpose

*To provide learners with background information and context for their roles in providing medical countermeasures (MCMs) to their communities through Point of Dispensing (POD) sites.*





## Learning Objectives

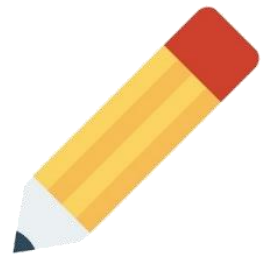
*At the conclusion of this lesson, learners will be able to*

- *outline the decision process for activating point of dispensing (POD) sites during a public health emergency.*
- *define a POD site.*
- *explain the importance of a POD during a public health emergency.*
- *describe the POD staff orientation and activation process.*

# All Incidents are Local



Treatment always occurs at the local level



...but may involve state, Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) or federal responses and/or assets

# Triggers for POD Activation



- *Release of biological agent or other public health threat*
  - *Category A Threat Agents*
    - *Smallpox*
    - *Plague*
    - *Anthrax*
  - *Other Threats*
    - *Pandemic Influenza*
    - **[customize]**

# Surveillance

- *Process for tracing and identifying source(s) of illness or death*
- *Outbreak confirmations via medical exams and lab testing*



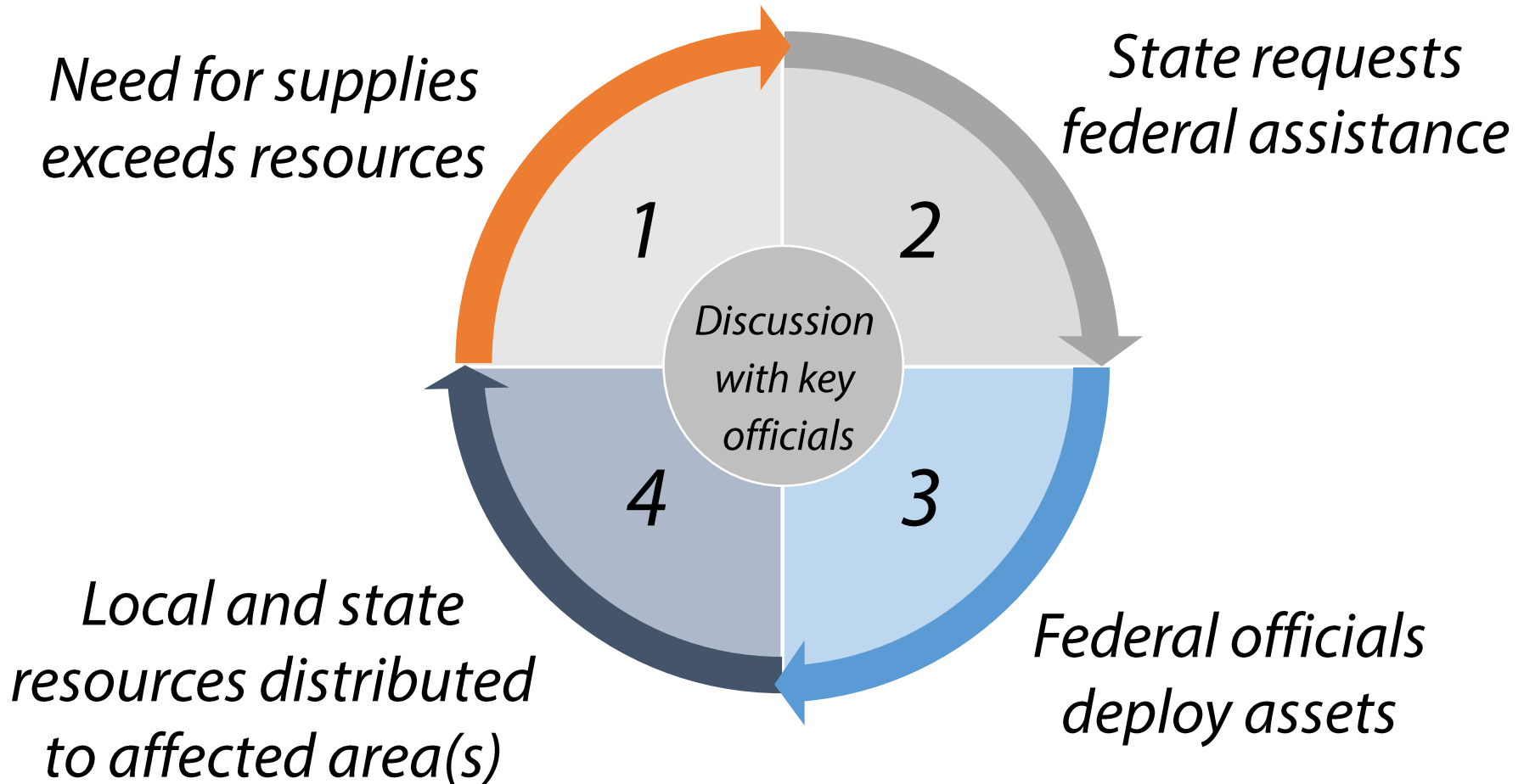


## Who Decides?

- *POD activation is a local **customize** decision*
- *Local assessment of*
  - *threat*
  - *needs*
  - *local resources*



# Local Resources Overwhelmed by Threat

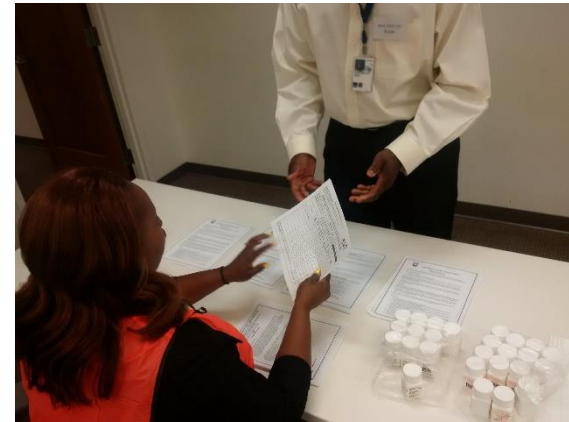




# POD Definition



*A POD site is a pre-identified system where MCMs are given to people to minimize the effects of a public health threat or emergency.*

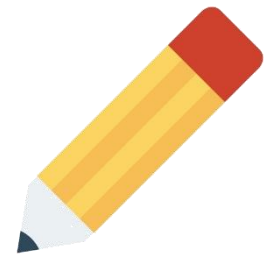


# A POD is...



- *established in a **non-traditional** healthcare setting*





## A POD is...

- *established in a **non-traditional** healthcare setting*
- *where **healthy individuals** receive medications or vaccinations*





## A POD is...

- *established in a **non-traditional** healthcare setting*
- *where **healthy individuals** receive medications or vaccinations*
- *a place that **prevents** individuals from getting sick*



## A POD is NOT...

- *a medical clinic to treat sick individuals*



## A POD is NOT...

- *a medical clinic to treat sick individuals*
- *set-up like a typical doctor's office*





## A POD is NOT...

- *a medical clinic to treat sick individuals*
- *set-up like a typical doctor's office*
- *staffed strictly by medical professionals*



## A POD is NOT...

- *a medical clinic to treat sick individuals*
- *set-up like a typical doctor's office*
- *staffed strictly by medical professionals*
- *designed to provide in-depth or individualized consultation services*



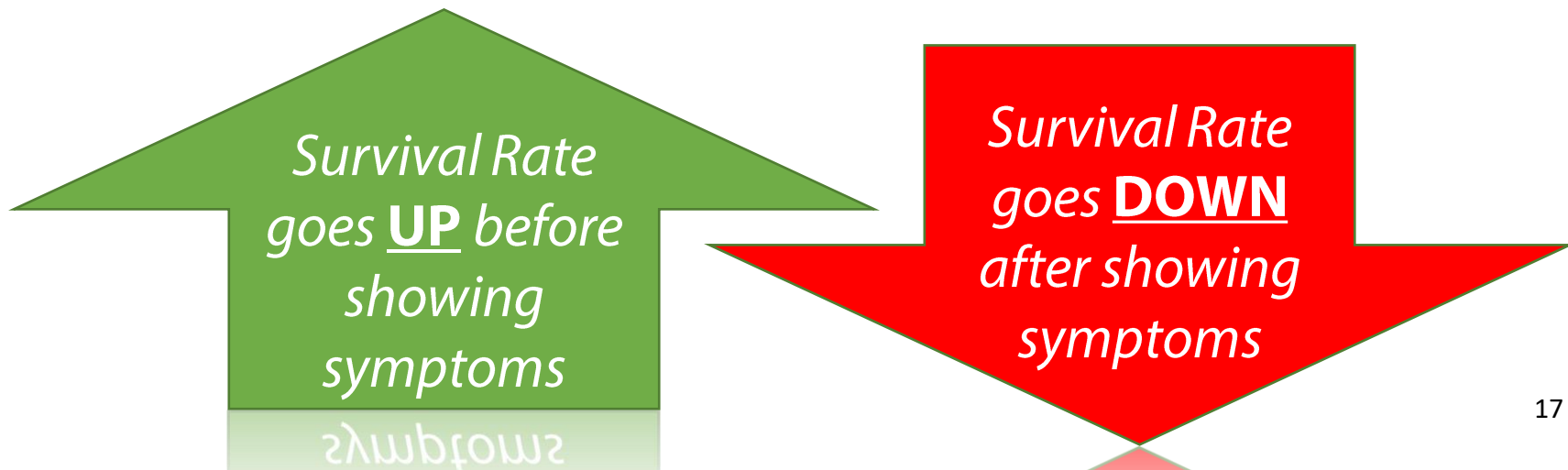




## Time is Critical

- *Decrease number of those who get ill or die*
- *Communicate importance of POD to \_\_\_\_\_*  
**[customize]** *of individuals within a few days*

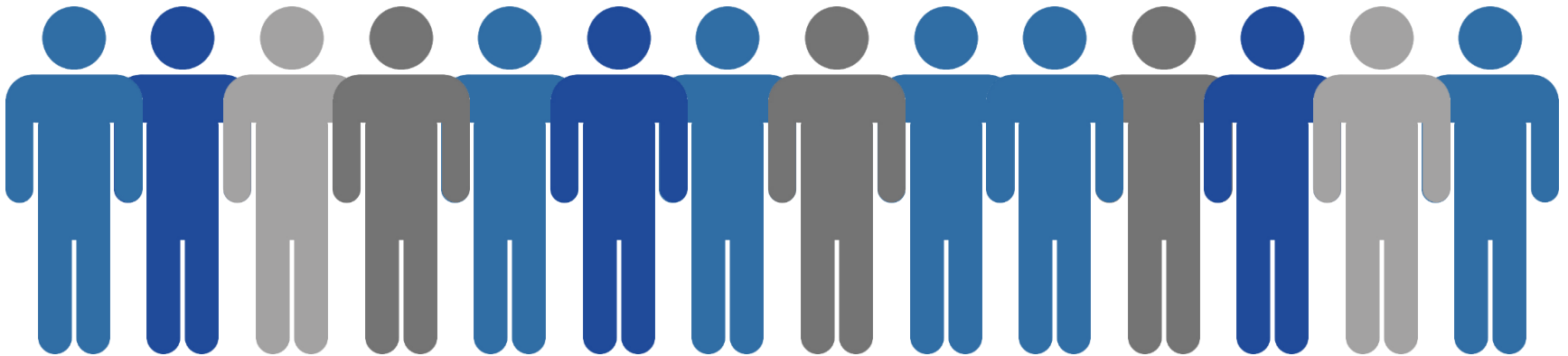
## Why Rush?



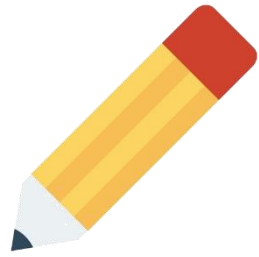
# Saving Lives



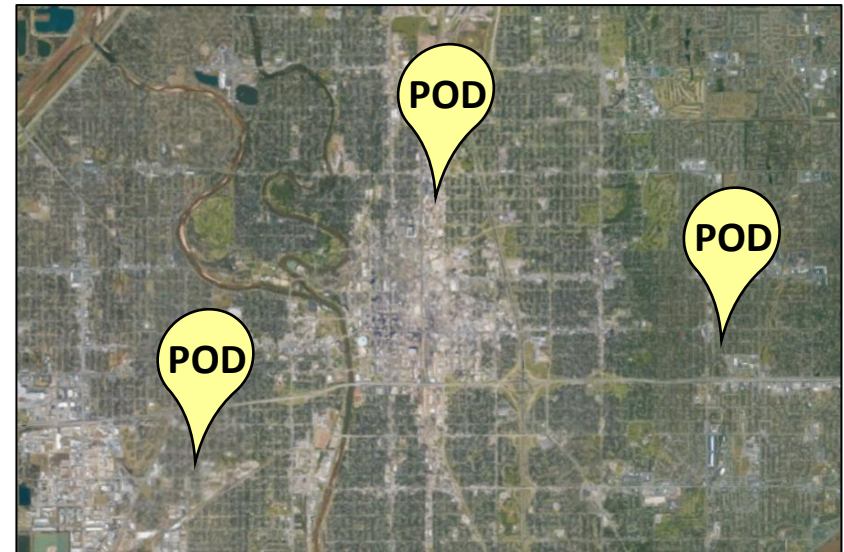
*A swift and effective POD has the potential to save [customize #] of lives.*



# PODs Across Jurisdictions



- *Operate differently*  
**[customize]**
- *Perform the same major functions*
- *Address a variety of incidents and critical time constraints*
- *Require staff and volunteers*



# POD Operations Depend on You!

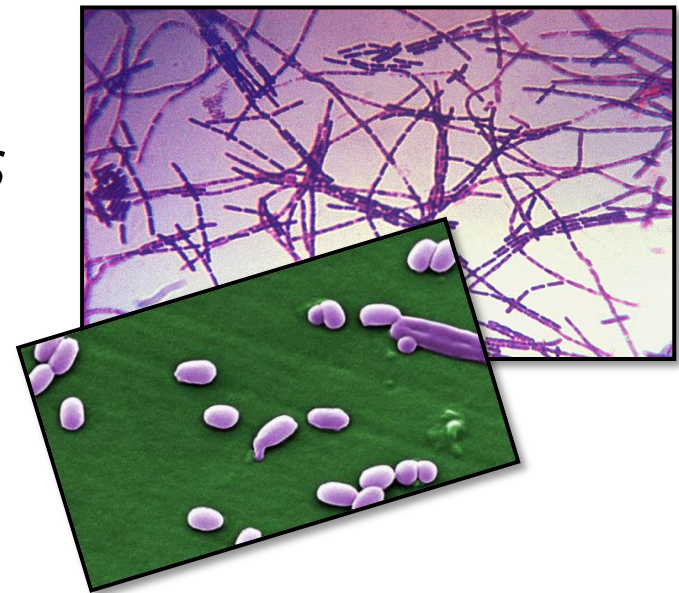
- *Public health staff, volunteers, and partners are **essential** for POD operations*
- *Efficient operations requires proper training*





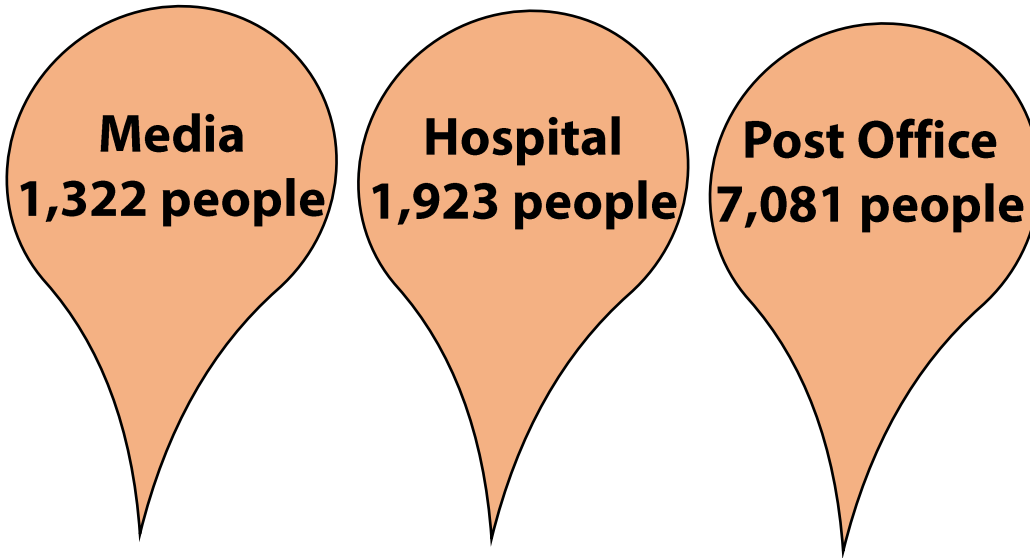
## Anthrax Letters 2001

- *Five envelopes with anthrax mailed*
- *Multiple contaminated locations*
  - *35 post offices and mailrooms*
  - *7 Capitol Hill buildings*
- *10,000 exposures*

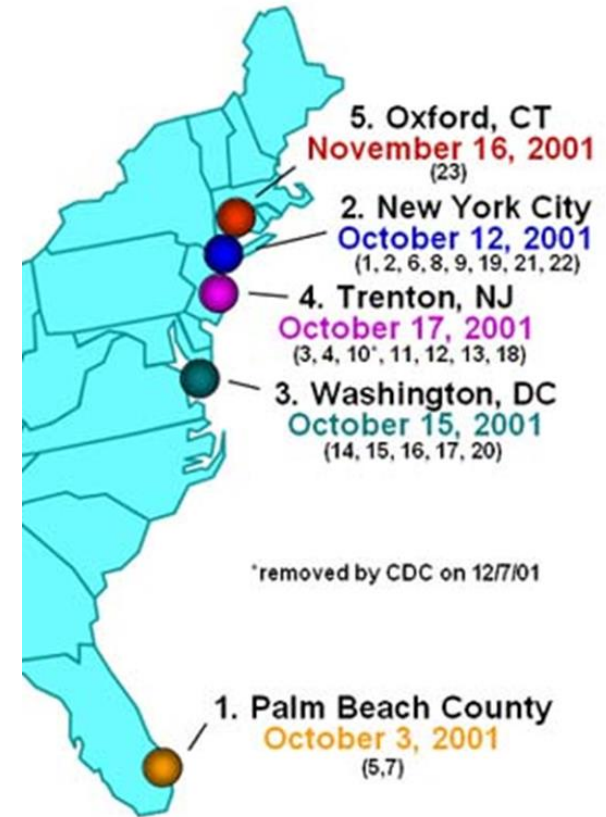




## New York City POD Response

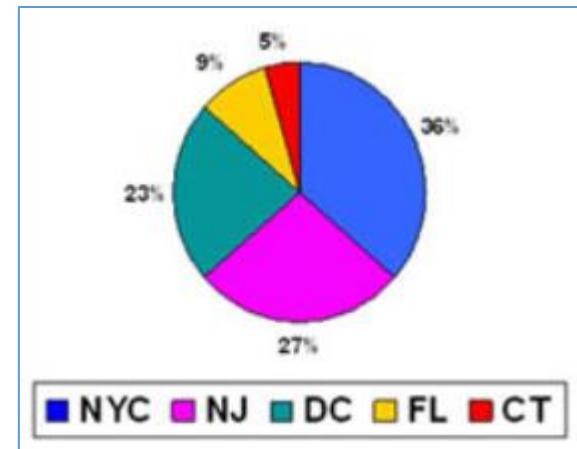


**Processed people for anthrax**



## Threat Outcome

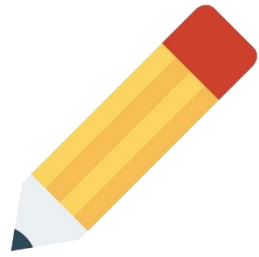
- *22 confirmed anthrax cases*
- *Five anthrax-related deaths*
- *More deaths without MCM response*



Source:  
[http://www.ph.ucla.edu/epi/bioter/detect/ant\\_detect\\_location.html](http://www.ph.ucla.edu/epi/bioter/detect/ant_detect_location.html)



# POD Staff Activation and Orientation



- *Receive notification of POD activation*
- *Check-in at POD*
- *Receive just-in-time-training*
- *Perform work assignment*
- *Check-out of POD*





# Notification of POD Staff



- *Occurs when supplies are en route to POD site*
- *Contacted by local health department or*  
**[customize]**
- *Phone tree or call down system* **[customize]**
- *Alternate method may be established*  
**[customize]**

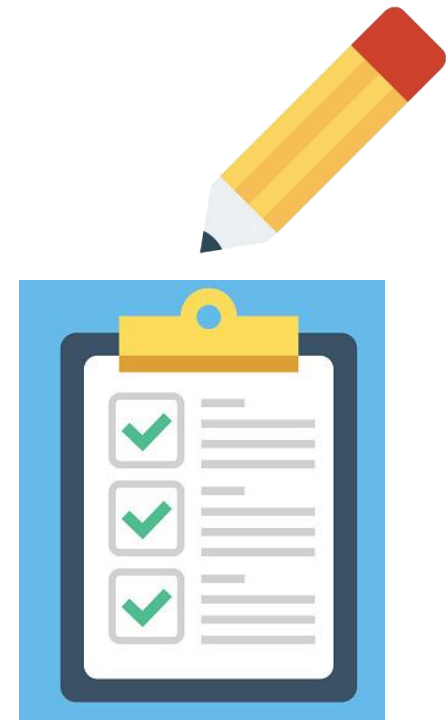
# Notification of POD Staff (Cont.)



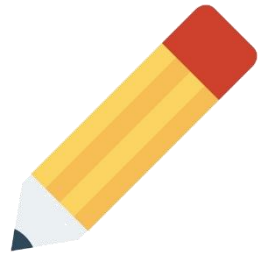
- **Where to go**
  - *Facility* [**customize**]
  - *Address* [**customize**]
- **When to report**
  - *Immediate* [**customize**]
  - *Standby* [**customize**]
- **What to bring**
  - *Photo ID* [**customize**]
  - *Medical license* [**customize**]
  - *Comfortable clothes*
- **Length of time**
  - *Duration of POD operations* [**customize**]
  - *8, 10, 12 hour shifts* [**customize**]

# Check-in Procedures

- *Report to sign-in area [customize]*
- *Complete required work-site forms [customize]*
- *Obtain work assignment*
- *Receive ID badge [customize]*
- *Receive MCMs for yourself and individuals in your household [customize]*



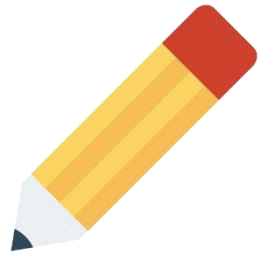
# Training of POD Staff



*Just-in-Time Training: training **directly** pertinent to the mission and the tasks about to start*

- *Delivered before your first shift*
- *Defines the POD mission/goal*
- *Outlines the POD process - stations*
- *Identifies resources – materials, equipment and supplies*

# Training of POD Staff (Cont.)



- *Training on your assigned work areas/tasks*

- *Job Action Sheets*
- *FAQs*

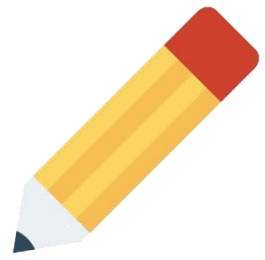


- *Identifies leadership structure or **chain of command***

- *Who to report to*
- *Who may report to you (if applicable)*
- *Communication/reporting requirements*

# Checkout Procedures

- *Debriefing*
- *Just-in-time training for next shift*
- *Restocking workstation (as needed)*
- *Reporting requirements fulfilled (if any)*
- *Sign out*

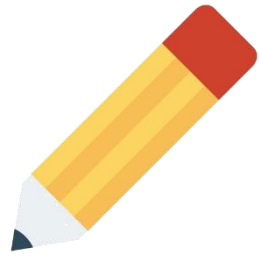


# Summary



- *PODs are activated in response to a public health threat, while surveillance activities occur. Threats **begin locally** and may require response resources if local resources are limited.*
- *PODs are **pre-identified** systems where people receive MCMs to minimize the effects of a public health threat.*

# Summary



- *PODs are the **cornerstone of a MCM response**, especially for threats with potentially high death rates where a quick response is critical.*
- *POD staff activation includes receiving **reporting details, POD check-in, just-in-time training** and **completing check-out procedures** after work is complete.*





# Questions?

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For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

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