



Pat Quinn, Governor
LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH, Director

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MEMORANDUM

TO: CHEMPACK Hospitals
RHCCs

FROM: Winfred C. Rawls, Deputy Director
Office of Preparedness and Response

DATE: January 14, 2013

RE: **Emergency Medical Countermeasures Guidance
Use of Diazepam and Atropine in the CHEMPACK to Combat Drug Shortages**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) CHEMPACK Program has advised that due to shortages of Diazepam and Atropine many hospitals and some EMS Systems are unable to obtain these medications through the normal supply chain and therefore their stocks are extremely low or exhausted.

Hospitals may access these medications in the CHEMPACK only if the following conditions are met:

- The removal of material is for a life saving measure.
- Alternative means of procurement are not available or have failed.
- Product is to be removed by the case and once removed the product becomes property of the hospital.
- Product removed from the CHEMPACK cannot be charged to a patient. In other words, they need to make sure their accounting system can zero out drug cost for the product they remove.
- Once removed, the unused portion of product will not be returned to the CHEMPACK container.
- DSNS/CHEMPACK program does not guarantee immediate product replacement.
- Provide written verification that use of the medications was for life saving measures.

If the above conditions are met and hospitals make the decision to access the CHEMPACK:

- During normal business hours, please call the IDPH Medical Countermeasures/Strategic National Stockpile Program Manager (217-836-9367) prior to opening the CHEMPACK. You can also send the notification via email with copy to your Regional Emergency Medical Services Coordinator. The Program Manager will notify CDC of your intention of accessing the CHEMPACK.
- After hours, please call the IEMA Communications Center and ask for the IDPH Duty Officer to inform them of your decision to access the CHEMPACK.

If you have further questions, please contact Carla N. Little, Ph.D., eMCM/SNS Program Manager, 217-836-9367 or via email at carla.little@illinois.gov.

c: Office of Preparedness and Response Staff

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