McHenry County Department of Health
Emergency Medication Points of Dispensing (PODs) - Fact Sheet

1. If a bioterrorist attack or widespread disease outbreak occurs, McHenry County may be directed to open temporary emergency "Points of Dispensing" (PODs) to provide emergency medication to protect against the threat.

2. If opened, the location of the PODs and their hours of operation will be released by MCDH and the media.

3. Medication will be free.

4. Personal identification will NOT be required.

5. Proof of residency will NOT be required.

6. PODs will only provide medication to prevent the threat at hand. They will NOT give out other medications or provide medical care.

    For example, if McHenry County is attacked with anthrax, PODs will only dispense antibiotics for anthrax. They will not give out medicine for other conditions, such high blood pressure or diabetes. For medicines to treat other conditions, people must go to their doctor or a hospital.

7. PODs cannot treat sick people. People must go to a hospital or treatment center if they are sick – not to a POD. DO NOT come to a POD if you are sick.

8. Everyone will need to be patient. Many people will need medicine and lines may be very long at PODs.

9. POD staff will do their best to keep families together as they go through the POD.

10. POD staff will do their best to accommodate those with special needs, including interpretation services.

11. Be prepared when you come to the POD!
    - Bring a list of the regular medications you and your family take.
    - Know any allergies or medical conditions the members of your family have.
    - Know how much your children weigh (dosages for children are calculated according to their weight).
    - Dress appropriately for the weather.
    - You may be at the POD for a few hours; if this is too long for you to go without food, water or medications, be sure to bring them with you. (For security purposes, use clear, see-through bags (ex. Ziploc bags) instead of backpacks to avoid delays.)

For more information on the mass medication dispensing visit http://emergency.cdc.gov/stockpile/