



## INLAND COUNTIES EMERGENCY MEDICAL AGENCY POLICY AND PROTOCOL MANUAL

**Reference No. 4020**  
Effective Date: 11/01/25  
Supersedes: 07/01/25  
Page 1 of 3

### CHEMPACK DEPLOYMENT

#### I. PURPOSE

To identify the ownership, criteria for deployment, procedure and personnel authorized to deploy the ChemPack, and specify record keeping requirements during deployment and return of unused medications and supplies to the host sites.

#### II. OWNERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

The ChemPack program is run by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response (PHPR), Division of Strategic National Stockpile. The CDC maintains ownership and provides overall management of the ChemPack (coordinates exchanges of expired/recalled drugs, training, information sharing).

San Bernardino County Department of Public Health (SBCDPH) administers the ChemPack locally and is responsible to notify the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and CDC of deployment. Each ChemPack is housed at host sites in strategic locations throughout the county.

Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency (ICEMA) is responsible for all operational activities once a ChemPack is deployed.

#### III. CHEMPACK DEPLOYMENT INDICATORS/AUTHORIZATION

The criteria for deploying a ChemPack include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Real or suspected release of nerve agents, organophosphates or carbamates that affect or may affect a population greater than the antidotes available within the local emergency response or hospital system.
- A multiple casualty incident involving victims with signs and symptoms of nerve agent or organophosphate exposure.
- A credible threat of an imminent incident likely to require the use of ChemPack assets.
- Preplanned staging at or near large events/mass gathering where the possibility of a major nerve agent or organophosphate exposure exists.
- A mutual aid request from neighboring counties, regions, the State, or the federal government.

The following may authorize ChemPack deployment:

- The Incident Commander (IC) on scene of a nerve agent or organophosphate exposure.
- The primary or secondary communication center receiving the call from the IC on scene of a nerve agent or organophosphate exposure.
- San Bernardino County Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) or designee.
- ICEMA EMS Duty Officer.

- San Bernardino County Office of Emergency Services (SBCOES) when EOC is activated.
- San Bernardino County Department of Public Health.

#### IV. PROCEDURE FOR CHEMPACK DEPLOYMENT

- The primary communications center or IC shall:
  - Identify that a condition exists for the deployment of a ChemPack using the indicators listed above.
  - Obtain an estimated number of patients affected.
  - Forward request for ChemPack deployment to Comm Center.
- Comm Center shall:
  - Query CAD for closest EMS ChemPack.
  - Contact Sheriff or closest, most appropriate air or ground agency for transport.
  - Comm Center shall contact the ChemPack host site(s) by phone to inform them that the medication in the ChemPack is being deployed. The amount of medication deployed is based on increments of 50 patients (adult or pediatric) obtained from the communication center or field IC.
  - Comm Center shall use the following script when calling the host site:

**"This is Comm Center. We have received a request from (requesting agency) to deploy the ChemPack stored at your facility. Please prepare medications per the ChemPack pharmaceutical packaging protocols for (number of) adult patients and/or (number of) pediatric patients for pick-up by (name of agency) for transport."**
  - Contact the ICEMA Duty Officer via phone at 909-208-8618 for all ChemPack deployments.
- ICEMA shall:
  - Coordinate the management of the ChemPack resources in a protracted nerve agent or organophosphate incident when multiple scenes or hospitals are involved or for pre-deployment.
  - On notification of deployment of the ChemPack, the ICEMA Duty Officer will contact the following:
    - MHOAC (for the affected County)
    - SBCOES Duty Officer: 909-356-3911
    - REMSA MHOAC: 951-830-8041, if no answer contact REMSA Duty Officer at 951-712-3342
    - SBCDPH Duty Officer: 909-677-7168

**V. CHEMPACK DEMOBILIZATION PROCEDURES**

- The on scene IC or MHOAC may halt deployment at any time based on unmet criteria or suitability as additional information becomes available.
- Once deployed, the IC and/or receiving facility shall ensure that all unused medications from the ChemPack and chain of custody forms are returned to the SBCDPH Preparedness and Response Office. The chain of custody shall be maintained.
- The on scene IC and/or hospital shall notify the SBCDPH Duty Officer of the return of unused medications and supplies.

**VI. BOOKKEEPING DURING CHEMPACK UTILIZATION**

Each ChemPack has an inventory of all medication and supplies. EMS field and hospital personnel accepting and transferring ChemPack supplies must use the approved ChemPack Deployment Inventory and Movement Tracking form (currently OSP 15-136681).

The EMS provider requesting and receiving the ChemPack shall maintain accurate records following the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)/National Incident Management System (NIMS) model that include:

- Incident name and number.
- Incident commander and agency name.
- Time of ChemPack request and deployment.
- Individual or entity who authorized ChemPack deployment.
- Name and title of person receiving deployment.
- Number and types of ChemPack contents used.
- Number of patients involved in the incident.
- Time and name of the SBCDPH Duty Officer that was notified of return.