

# Emergency Distribution of Pharmaceuticals

## INTENDED AUDIENCE

Public health workers, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and volunteer health care providers who wish to increase their knowledge of mass dispensing of pharmaceuticals.

## FORMAT

Web-based presentation. This online module has interactive exercises.

## ESTIMATED TIME TO COMPLETE

The module takes approximately one hour to complete.

## LEAD COURSE DEVELOPER

Andy Stergachis, PhD, RPh  
Professor, Epidemiology and Global Health  
Adjunct Professor, Pharmacy  
Northwest Center for Public Health Practice  
School of Public Health and Community  
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## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See <http://www.nwcphp.org/pharmacy>



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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

During an emergency, public health workers may be called upon to help dispense medicine or medical supplies. Find out what is involved in the process of mass dispensing of medications, vaccines, or other medical supplies. This module outlines situations in which mass dispensing is necessary, and discusses the logistics of providing medications to large populations.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe the role of medications, vaccines, and medical supplies in response to a public health emergency, such as an act of terrorism, a natural disaster, or an influenza pandemic.
- List and describe the pharmaceutical resources available for public health crises and describe how these resources could be used within local communities.
- Describe the purpose and general process flow of a mass dispensing clinic or a point of distribution (POD).
- Explain the roles of public health staff and volunteers in a POD.

## COMPETENCIES ADDRESSED

This module addresses the following Bioterrorism and Emergency Readiness competencies as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- Core Competency 1. Describe the public health role in emergency response in a range of emergencies that might arise.
- Core Competency 4. Describe the functional role(s) and responsibilities in emergency response.
- Core Competency 8. Recognize unusual events that might indicate an emergency and describe appropriate action.

This module also addresses the following Core Public Health Competencies from the Council on Linkages.

- Domain 1: Analytic Assessment Skills
- Domain 2: Policy Development/Program Planning Skills

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## About the Course Developer

Andy Stergachis, PhD, RPh, Professor of Epidemiology and Global Health and Adjunct Professor of Pharmacy, is active in emergency distribution of pharmaceuticals and public health disaster preparedness, chairs the Washington State Pharmacy Association Emergency Preparedness Committee, and served as a local county's Strategic National Stockpile Coordinator. Dr. Stergachis also served as Principal Investigator of the HRSA-funded Bioterrorism Curriculum Development Program.

## CO-PROVIDER

This course is co-provided by the University of Washington School of Nursing.

The University of Washington School of Nursing is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

Participants who successfully complete the course are eligible to receive a certificate for 1.0 contact hours for a processing fee of \$35.

## CO-SPONSOR

This module is co-sponsored by the Washington State Pharmacy Association. One credit hour (0.10 CEU) is available through WSPA upon successful completion of the course. After passing the final assessment with a score of at least 70% and completing an online course evaluation, learners are directed to a form which they may print, complete, and fax or mail to WSPA at no charge. Within 2-4 weeks WSPA will mail a statement of credit.



The Washington State Pharmacy Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as a Provider of continuing pharmacy education  
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