

# CHEMPACK

## What is it?

The **CHEMPACK** program pre-positions federally owned nerve agent antidotes for quick treatment of patients exposed to nerve agents. The **CHEMPACK** containers house Atropine and Pralidoxime to effectively treat nerve agent exposure, as well as Diazepam for use as an anticonvulsant.



The toxidrome **SLUDGEMM** is used to identify nerve agent exposure:

Salivation

Lacrimation (tearing)

Urination

Defecation

Gastrointestinal upset

Emesis (vomiting)

Muscle twitching

\*Miosis (pinpoint pupils)

\*Miosis is an important symptom as it is not seen in other types of chemical exposure.

## When and how do I use the CHEMPACK?

*The **CHEMPACK** is to be used when:*

- An intentional release of nerve agents has occurred
- An accidental release of organophosphate pesticides has occurred
- Patients display symptoms of nerve agent exposure

*In the event **CHEMPACK** assets are needed:*

Indicate the need for **CHEMPACK** to your Incident Commander.

Incident Command will contact Vermont's Dept. of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) **24/7: 800-347-0488**. DEMHS will contact the nearest CHEMPACK host hospital for mobilization of assets.

*\*It is important to remember nerve agents are **hazardous materials**, thus all patients need to be decontaminated and appropriate personal protective equipment needs to be worn.\**

Always check your Emergency Response Guidebook when a placarded vehicle is involved in an incident. Some placards displayed when organophosphates are present include:



## How and where are the antidotes stored?

Six CHEMPACK containers are located at hospitals around the state to best serve Vermont's population. The antidotes are stored in small boxes inside rolling containers for easy transport.

