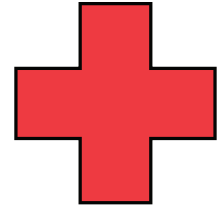




Northeast District Department of Health

VIAL OF LIFE PROGRAM

LIFESAVING INFORMATION FOR EMERGENCIES



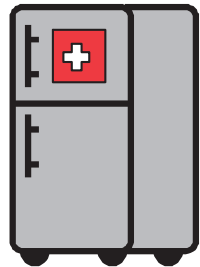
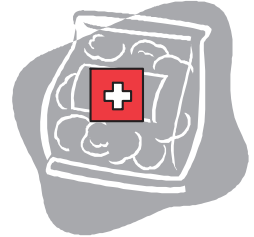
What is the VIAL OF LIFE?

The VIAL OF LIFE program is a way to have important life-saving information available for Emergency Medical Responders in the event that you are injured or ill at your home and are unable to communicate. While it is useful for all family members, it is especially helpful for senior citizens, those living alone, or those who are chronically ill.

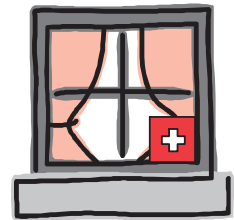
How to Use the VIAL OF LIFE



1. Fill out the VIAL OF LIFE form. You may want to ask your doctor to help you complete the form. Be sure to check it once a month for accuracy so it contains the most up-to-date information possible.
2. Put the completed form and other important information in a zip-lock plastic bag and put a VIAL OF LIFE DECAL on the front of the baggie. You may also want to include a photo I.D., a recent EKG strip, and a copy of legal documents such as a Health Care Proxy, Living Will and/or a Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) order.



3. Tape the baggie to the front of your refrigerator door. (The front of the refrigerator is the best place for this information because virtually every home has one, it is easy to find, and even after a disaster, it is usually intact.)
4. Put a second VIAL OF LIFE DECAL on your front door or window to direct Emergency Medical Responders where to find your life-saving information.



Inform Family Members, Caregivers and Others Whom You Trust

Your VIAL OF LIFE information is important to those who will be assisting you in times of emergency. It's a good idea to let family members, caregivers, and other people whom you trust know about your VIAL OF LIFE. Also discuss your wishes for care ahead of time and have all legal documents signed that may be necessary. These include decisions about what to do if you should experience a heart attack or develop severe respiratory problems. In order for emergency personnel to honor a patient's wishes, these important documents must be accessible at the time of the emergency.

Northeast District Department of Health

The Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH) serves over 83,000 residents in 12 towns, covering approximately 438 square miles. We work with many community partners to promote, protect, and improve the health of the residents of Northeastern Connecticut. Contact us with your public health questions or to learn more about the VIAL OF LIFE Program. NDDH...we're a trusted resource, and we're here to help!

860-774-7350

www.nddh.org

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