

# CDC Countermeasure Tracking Systems

## Countermeasure Inventory Tracking

### What is the CDC Countermeasure Inventory Tracking (CIT)?

Countermeasures are interventions taken to help prevent or slow the spread of disease. An important way the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) helps keep our nation safe when public health emergencies (such as an influenza pandemic, natural disaster, or national security emergency) occur is by distributing and tracking the use of medicine and supplies used to address the health threat. Such medicine and supplies are commonly called medical countermeasures.



When responding to events that put people's health at risk, public health officials need timely, accurate information about their supply, distribution, and use of countermeasures at the local, state, and national levels.

CIT is a national-level system used by federal and state emergency response authorities to monitor the current availability of critical medical countermeasures, including commercial inventories in the private sector during a public health emergency.

CIT is one of the three Web-based applications that comprise CDC's Countermeasure Tracking Systems (CTS). The valuable information supplied by CTS helps health officials know when and where to deploy countermeasures to most effectively protect persons at risk. The three CTS applications can be used separately or in combination, depending on the situation. The CTS applications are:

- Countermeasure and Response Administration ([CRA](#)),
- Inventory Management and Tracking System ([IMATS](#)), and
- Countermeasure Inventory Tracking ([CIT](#)).

The applications are easy to use, require minimal training, and are available to public health departments for free. During a public health emergency CIT reveals to public health officials the inventory levels and distribution status of key pharmaceuticals and medical supplies in the commercial sector. In this way, officials can ensure that critical countermeasures reach the populations most at risk.

### CIT system features

CIT streamlines communication among CDC officials, state public health authorities, and commercial suppliers so that all are aware of the countermeasure inventories on hand to meet anticipated resupply demands. During a public health emergency, manufacturers, distributors, and pharmaceutical retailers can voluntarily provide CDC with their on-hand inventory and production-level data for the specific medical countermeasures needed for emergency response operations. This could include data on the company's ability to meet anticipated demand for product resupply. CIT enables officials to combine this private-sector data with countermeasure inventory data submitted by public health departments to improve situational awareness and prevent possible drug shortages during a public health emergency.

### How has CIT been used?

CDC used CIT in 2009 during its response to the H1N1 (swine flu) influenza pandemic. CIT was very valuable in accurately tracking supplies of antiviral drugs, N-95 respirators, and surgical masks.

For more information, e-mail [CTSHelp@cdc.gov](mailto:CTSHelp@cdc.gov) or visit <http://www.cdc.gov/cts/cit/>.



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