

University of Minnesota Medical Reserve Corp Program Newsletter

March 2011

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Academic Health Center

Office of Emergency Response

Potential Flood Deployments

As the possibility of widespread flooding continues to threaten parts of Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Iowa, AHC Office of Emergency Response staff is staying informed of statewide planning efforts. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Units may be called upon to assist flooded areas and whenever possible requests will be made of MRC Units that are as close as possible to area needing assistance.

The U of M MRC has been involved in flood related deployments the past three years. In **2008**, ten members of the U of M MRC Veterinary Medicine Response Strike Team was deployed to aid in the medical care of small companion animals housed in an animal rescue shelter following the severe flooding of the Cedar Rapids, Iowa area.

In **2009**, U of M MRC members joined MRC members from around the state to assist in the Red River Valley flood response efforts. Two registered nurses and one emergency medical technician were deployed to Brainerd to assist with the care of displaced nursing home residents.

In **2010**, four members of the U of M MRC Behavioral Health Response Team were deployed to provide a community behavioral health assessment and behavioral health support services within affected the areas of Wabasha County.

U of M MRC members will be kept current on all MRC flood related deployment developments via the MRC newsletter, MRC website, and/or emails.

U of M MRC Logistics Strike Team Meeting

The Logistics Strike Team plays an important role in the ability of our Medical Reserve Corps to respond effectively to planned and emergency events. Members of this strike team are responsible for resource management before and during U of M MRC deployments. They are responsible for the physical set up of the deployment site, including setting up signage, queuing line Tensa barriers, tables, chairs, equipment and other supplies as needed. During MRC deployments Logistics Strike Team members assist with staff check-in, supply management, and the care and support of MRC members.

We will be holding a team meeting to review team member roles and responsibilities and discuss 2011 team goals and activities. Team members will have the opportunity to meet the team leaders and familiarize themselves with the role of the Logistics Strike Team within the broader MRC program. We still need additional members for team and if you are interested, please contact Kathy Berlin.

Team Meeting Specifics:

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Time: 3:30pm-4:25pm

Location: Mayo Memorial Building, room 1250. Room 1250 is located on the 12th floor of the Mayo Memorial Building and directly across from the elevators.

RSVP: Email Kathy Berlin at medicalreserve@umn.edu

A light snack will be provided.

Volunteer Corner

Q. I am interested in joining the Pharmaceutical Response Strike Team. Do I need to be affiliated with the College of Pharmacy?

A. Members of the Pharmaceutical Response Strike Team do not need to have an affiliation with the College of Pharmacy. One of the opportunities members of this strike team will have is to assist with the rapid repackaging of a cache of oral antibiotics designed to serve essential personnel in the metropolitan region during a public health emergency. Most of the staff needed for the repackaging do not need to have a medical license of any kind. That being said, we are looking for a dozen or so licensed Pharmacist to serve in leadership roles during deployments that include a pharmaceutical component.

AHC Office of Emergency Response Staff

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