



New York City Medical Reserve Corps



July 2012

42-09 28 St., Queens NY 11101

347-723-1696

healthmrc@health.nyc.gov

You asked for it: trainings requested by volunteers in last year's training survey were offered in June.

CPR/AED Training – In May and June, MRC offered two sessions of CPR/AED training. Conducted by Jon Bloomberg and team, these hands on trainings were a huge hit. Theresa Edwards commented: "I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity for certification in the CPR/AED Training 6/10/12. The training was well done by Mr. Jon Bloomberg; it had its fun moments. I do appreciate being a part of that training, and, earning a certificate."



Assisting Older Persons During Emergencies



Assistant Commissioner Linda Whitaker from the Department for the Aging joined us at the Churchill School for a lively discussion of older persons. Linda emphasized that preparedness is especially important for older people, who may be taking multiple medications, and have

mobility issues. She challenged us to assist our neighbors, friends and family as well as ourselves to make a plan and gather supplies. Linda provided many handouts including Ready NY pamphlet on making a plan.

Why I Volunteer



Ros Gianutsos at Yankee Stadium exercise

Name: Rosamond Gianutsos, PhD

MRC Member since "seems like forever" (2004)

Profession: Psychologist specializing in neuropsychological rehabilitation

What MRC/CCC activities have you participated in lately?

Points of Dispensing
CPR/AED
Psychological First Aid
Skills for Psychological Recovery
Yankee Stadium Evacuation Exercise
Volunteer Recognition Celebration
MRC Advisory Board member
REST Team member

Why do you volunteer?

If there is a disaster, not only do I want to help, I want to be informed and to be helped.

Several years ago, I worked in the flu PODs, initially as a Flow Monitor. Later I heard some colleagues express negative feelings, saying that they had not earned their advanced degrees to be line monitors. This reaction bothered me, as one of the neat things about MRC is the opportunity to address real needs with colleagues from distant disciplines, drawing and expanding on your training. (see Ros' reflections on being a flow monitor below) .

Hello, I'm Flow: Ruminations on serving as a Flow Control Monitor

Rosamond Gianutsos, Ph.D., Medical Reserve Corps Volunteer

"Hello, I'm Flow."

"Hello, Flo, I'm John."

"Actually, I'm Roz. I'm doing Flow Control here."

A team effort, the POD is serious business: mass immunization in the event of bio-attack or epidemic. Mental health professionals, like me, are typically assigned to "Flow Control." Our job is to help people flow through the POD: Welcome, screening/information gathering, vaccination, monitoring and farewell. This time my post was the transition from the screeners to the vaccinators. A central aisle divides the dozen screening tables and continues to another dozen vaccination tables. This aisle is my territory. A maitre'd without a podium; I usually begin at the point where the screening tables end and the vaccination tables begin. "How many do we have today?" "Just me" "Not just you, it's you. And I have a fine table for you. Come on down, all the way. See that smiling lady back there, she's there for you!" Back to my non-podium. I see a family – a man with three boys. They could be 5, 7 and 11. Keep the family together – that's policy. "Hey, did you all come together?" Heads nod. In my mind I am thinking: Let's find a vaccinator who's good with kids. "You look like brave boys. Come on down. I've got a table for you right over here."

By the next POD, I had acquired "Bugout Bob" to distract the kids. His red eyes pop out when you squeeze him.

Keep moving.

Keep happy ('might be a lot harder if it weren't just the free flu shots).

Keep the peace.

Flow can be fun. Do it with panache.

Above all, flow is important.



MRC at PriMed – NYC MRC recruited new members at the PriMed, the primary care conference held on June 21, 22, and 23 at the Jacob Javits Center. MRC shared a table in the exhibits hall with other parts of the health department. Josephine Vella, NP, an NYC MRC volunteer spoke about MRC during the question and answer period of the keynote address, and then came to the exhibits hall to help field questions about MRC. David Seres, MD, MRC Advisory Board member, was instrumental in arranging for MRC to be represented there. Thanks to both David and Jo for promoting NYC MRC!

MRC Training Opportunities

Tuesday, July 24 – MRC Orientation – This is an introduction to the Medical Reserve Corps and includes information on how MRC fits into the emergency response plan, creating a family plan and a go bag, the ICS structure, and how MRC works. This training is a pre-requisite for many other trainings. Training is open to all members.

Location: 125 Worth St, 3rd Floor Boardroom, lower Manhattan, NYC

Registration and food: 5:30, training 6:00 PM– 8:00 PM

Thursday, July 31 – Bomb and Blast Injuries and Triage – Dr. Dario Gonzalez, FDNY, will share his wisdom about bomb and blast events, injuries and the triage that is used. Dr. Gonzalez will discuss the implications of bomb and blast events in NYC.

Location: The Churchill School, 310 East 29 St (at 2nd Ave.), Manhattan.

Registration and food: 5:30,

Training: 6:00 – 8:00

To register for MRC trainings, please send an email to: healthmrc@health.nyc.gov
Please include your name, license type, email and phone number. Please include the title of the training and date in the subject line

Citizens Corps Trainings

Wed., July 18 – A Look Back: 1995 Tokyo Sarin Gas Attack – During the morning rush hour commute on March 20, 1995, members of the religious cult Aum Shinrikyo conducted five coordinated attacks on the Tokyo subway system, using sarin gas. The attacks left thirteen people dead and thousands injured. Sponsored by the NYC Citizens Corps Council, Donnie Campbell from the NYC office of Emergency Management will speak about the attack, emergency response, and impact it had on Japan and around the world.

Tues, Aug. 7th – Cultural Institutions Before, During and After Emergencies Sponsored by the NYC Citizen Corps Council and the NYC Office of Emergency Management's Public-Private Initiatives, this workshop will discuss the planning challenges and the impact disasters have on Cultural institutions and the collections. Brianna Hertzler from NYC Office of Emergency Management Becky Fifield from the Metropolitan Museum of Art and chair of the NYC chapter of the Alliance for Response will be present.

To register for the Citizens Corps Trainings, please go to:

<http://www.nyccitizencorpscouncil.eventbrite.com/>

OEM Training

Tues, and Wed, July 24 & 25 - Medical Management of CBRNE Events - Participants completing this program will be able to properly perform patient triage, decontamination, treatment, and transportation in the event of exposure to chemical, biological, radiological. Nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) weapons. The course consists of facilitated discussions, small group exercises, hands-on activities, and task-orientated practical applications. Course participants will use both state-of-the-art adult and pediatric human patient simulators to promote critical thinking skills while utilizing the RAPID-Care concept. **Intended Audience:** EMS, Fire and HazMat personnel, Law enforcement, public health, physicians/physician assistants, emergency management, hospital/medical treatment facility personnel. **Prerequisites:** It is recommended that participants complete two online courses before attending the course. These internet courses are available at no cost. Visit <http://www.teexwmdcampus.com> and complete: Basic EMS Concepts for WMD Incidents, and WMD/Terrorism Awareness for Emergency Responders.

To Register, go to:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dHJOZW12N2F1c01iTDZiaHNqNVFpNXc6MA#gid=0>

Articles of Interest

Predicting Response to Reassurances and Uncertainties in Bioterrorism

Communications for Urban Populations in New York and California – By far the most likely scenario for an act of WMD terrorism is an attack carried out in a complex, densely populated city or urban center, placing at risk communities that reflect a range of socioeconomic or life circumstances, orientations toward risk, and ethnic or cultural backgrounds. Skilled communications about decontamination strategies, protection of public health, cleanup, restoration and reoccupancy will be essential to support efforts to protect public health and maintain/restore public confidence within a context of disturbing events. To read more, go to:

<http://online.liebertpub.com/doi/pdfplus/10.1089/bsp.2011.0100>

The Missing Piece of NIMS: Teaching Incident Commanders How to Function in the Edge of Chaos,

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) has established the procedures to be used, across disciplines, in responding to an emergency situation. Cynthia Renaud, an experienced first responder and incident commander, questions the utility of NIMS in the field during the first, initial stage of an emergency. In "[The Missing Piece of NIMS: Teaching Incident Commanders How to Function in the Edge of Chaos](#)," Renaud argues that NIMS — although very effective in the later stages of response — offers limited help to those first-arriving responders who

must deal with the initial chaos inherent at the outset of every scene. She recommends additions to NIMS that will better prepare first-responding incident commanders to work their way through that chaos and later apply the NIMS process with purpose. To read more, go to:

<http://www.hsaj.org/?article=8.1.8>

Nuclear Terrorism: Are we Prepared? Also on the theme of preparedness, Al Mauroni looks at policy affecting the government's response to acts of nuclear terrorism. In "[Nuclear Terrorism: Are We Prepared?](#)" he points out that while federal programs support prevention and protection actions and — to some extent — response and recovery — it is difficult to determine the overall effectiveness of these programs because metrics for success have not been determined. Mauroni argues for a public policy approach to evaluating federal and state preparation for responding to a nuclear terrorist event. To read more, go to: <http://www.hsaj.org/?article=8.1.9>