



New York City Medical Reserve Corps



July 2013

42-09 28 St., Queens NY 11101

347-723-1696

healthmrc@health.nyc.gov

NYC MRC Notification Drill



Thank you for participating in the NYC MRC Quarterly Notification Drill conducted the week on June 25, 2013. Your participation assures that we will have a good response in the event of a

disaster or emergency. 51% of MRC members responded to the drill.



UPDATE YOUR RECORD

We rely on the data in ServNY to reach you in times of emergency or disaster, so it's very important to keep your record up to date. You can do this in two ways: you can go to: <https://apps.health.ny.gov/public/publogin.html> and enter the user name and password you created, and update your own record. Or you can send your new data to healthmrc@health.nyc.gov - indicate in the subject line that you are updating your record. Either way, you will ensure that we can reach you in the event of a disaster or emergency. Thanks!



Why I volunteer



Marie Therency

How many years have you been a member of NYC MRC? – I am a proud newbie member since March 2013.

What MRC activities have you participated in lately? “It takes a City” NYC Disaster Volunteer Conference, FDNY/Staten Island Yankee Stadium Exercise, NYC MRC Symposium: Essential Tools for Responders.

Are you involved with any other volunteer activities? Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE), AARP: Create The Good, Dance Parade, AIDS Walk, Habitat for Humanity

Why do you volunteer for NYC MRC? In October 2012 Staten Island was hit by Hurricane Sandy. Fortunately my family escaped with only minor exterior damage to our property. However, many others on the island were not so fortunate; including many of our friends and neighbors. As we were going through the process of researching and applying for services such as FEMA, I received an email from the Chair of the Disaster Trauma Committee of the NASW-NYC encouraging members to join the MRC as social work volunteers. This information motivated me to sign up. I saw this as an opportunity to not only educate myself and my family, but to also to better prepare for natural disasters' aftermath and to assist in my community's recovery. I feel I am in a more effective position to utilize my professional skill set.

BE A LEADER – Apply to be part of the POD Core Team



The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) is seeking leaders to become Point-of-Dispensing Core Team members (PCT) to help manage Points-of-Dispensing during public health emergencies. As you may know, PODs are temporary emergency sites set-up and opened to dispense life-saving medical countermeasures as rapidly as possible to prevent people from becoming ill or dying of a disease. Medical countermeasures include antibiotics and vaccine.

PCTs are comprised of six staff members who set up PODs, assign and train incoming general staff, and manage operations once the site is open to the public. PCT members work 12-hour shifts and are required to attend an in-person PCT Operations Training every other year. PCT position descriptions are located at the end of the application.

Candidates should be willing to make their POD assignment a priority in the event of a disaster or emergency. POD Core Team members will be pre-assigned to a POD site based on their residential address.

Ideal candidates will possess skills and demonstrated ability to:

1. Work and make decisions independently
2. Lead and manage staff while working under pressure
3. Coordinate and delegate responsibilities
4. Effectively communicate instructions to staff and the public

To apply to become a member of the POD Core Team, please follow this link to complete the application:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PODTeamLeader>



Deadline is September 11, 2013

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## ILI Surveillance



If you are a clinician (MD, DO, PA, NP, RN) in direct contact with patients on a regular basis, we need your help!

We are seeking people who work in:

- |                           |                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Hospital Clinics          | Community Health Care Centers |
| Private Clinics           | Private Practice              |
| University Health Centers |                               |

**Now you can help with Influenza Surveillance in only a few minutes a week!**

As part of the Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Network (**ILINet**) an ILINet provider conducts surveillance for influenza-like illness in collaboration with the NY State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Data reported by ILINet providers, in combination with other influenza surveillance data, provide a state and nationwide picture of influenza virus and ILI activity. NYS ILINet providers are part of a national network of more than 3,000 healthcare providers in 50 states reporting over 25 million patient visits each year.

### Why Volunteer?

Influenza viruses are constantly evolving and cause substantial morbidity and mortality every season. ILINet data is critical in monitoring the course of influenza virus activity on the local, state, and national level. Also, ILINet data, in combination with other influenza surveillance data, has been used to guide prevention and control activities, vaccine strain selection, and patient care. ILINet

providers receive feedback on the data submitted, summaries of regional, statewide and national influenza data, and free subscriptions to CDC's ***Morbidity and Mortality Weekly*** and ***Emerging Infectious Diseases Journal***. The most important consideration is that the data provided are critical for protecting the public's health.

## MRC TRAININGS

### All Hazards Training for Mental Health Professionals

**Date:** Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup>

**Location:** DOHMH, 42-09 28 St, Long Island City, NY 11101

**Time:** 9:00am – 5:00pm

**To register, go to:**

<http://nycmedicalreservecorpssallhazardstrainingformental.eventbrite.com/>

What is the REST Team? The MRC REST (Resiliency and Emotional Support Team) is comprised of a core group of qualified, trained mental health MRC professionals who, when activated, can be rapidly mobilized to provide on-site disaster mental health services. The REST team provides disaster mental health services such as information and referral, Psychological First Aid (PFA) and crisis counseling. These services might be provided on site within DOHMH and/or at City-designated response sites.

Who qualifies to be a MRC REST Responder? MRC orientation is a pre-requisite for this course. This training is for Mental Health professionals only. You must have:

- A NYS license or certificate (i.e.- SW, Psychologist or therapist)
- Master's degree and at least two years Experience or 1 year experience with those experiencing trauma or Disaster
- Bachelor's degree and 2 years providing mental health services

\*\*\*\*You only need to take this full day course once

This training is being offered through the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, office of Mental Health Disaster Preparedness and Response



### Commodity Distribution Point Training



**Dates:** Tuesday, July 16 **OR** Thursday, July 18

**Location:** Office of Emergency Management (OEM),  
Emergency Operations Center, 165 Cadman Plaza East,  
Brooklyn, NY

**Time:** 6:00pm – 8:00 pm

A light dinner will be served.

**To register, go to:**

<http://nycmrccommoditydistributionpointtraining.eventbrite.com/>

MRC is working with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to recruit a group of volunteers to staff Commodity Distribution Points (CDP) in times of emergency. As seen with Super Storm Sandy, it is imperative to have a group of volunteers to deploy in times of need. Volunteers would help support the distribution of essential items like food, water, and blankets to the community.

**Volunteer Roles will include:**

1. Psychological First Aid – assist local residents and CDP Staff by providing support to reduce potential distress and anxiety.

2. Distribution – work in the Commodity Distribution Area passing out food, water, and other commodities to local residents.
3. Flow Monitor – support the safe and efficient movement of the public through the site and disseminate accurate operational and distribution information to local residents.
4. Commodity Organization - assist with the organization of commodities in the Commodity Storage Area and Commodity Distribution Area.
5. Other tasks at CDP sites, as needed, at time of event.

Once volunteers complete a CDP training through OEM, they will be tagged in the database as available to assist in CDPs.

## Active Shooter: What You Can Do?

**Dates:** Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> **OR** Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>

**Locations:** August 6<sup>th</sup> Wagner College, Spiro Hall Staten Island  
August 8<sup>th</sup> Manhattan (exact location to be announced)

**Time:** 6:00pm – 8:00pm

A light dinner will be served.

**To register, go to:** <http://nycmractiveshooterwhatyoucando.eventbrite.com/>



An “**Active Shooter**” is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined space or other populated area. In most cases, active shooters use firearms and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.

Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to victims. Active shooters usually will continue to move throughout building or area until stopped by law enforcement, suicide, or other intervention.

This course provides guidance to individuals, including managers and employees, so that they can prepare to respond to an active shooter situation.

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe actions to take when confronted with an active shooter and responding law enforcement officials.
- Describe actions to take to prevent and prepare for potential active shooter incidents.
- Describe how to manage the consequences of an active shooter incident.

Not all recommendations provided here will be applicable at every facility. This course is intended to provide guidance to enhance facility-specific plans and procedures as well as personal preparedness if the individual becomes involved in an active shooter situation.



## Responding to Pediatric Disasters

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20

**Time:** 6:00pm – 8:00 pm

**Location:** Churchill School, 301 East 29 St, Manhattan

A light dinner will be served.

**To register, go to:**

<http://nycmrrespondingtopediatricdisasters.eventbrite.com/>

How are pediatric injuries handled during emergencies?

What makes an event a pediatric disaster? How can you help? Please join us as two experts in Pediatric Disaster Medicine share their experiences and knowledge.

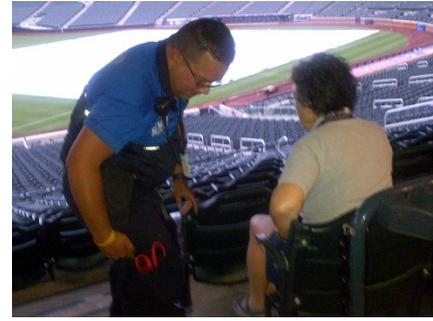
Dr. George Foltin is Vice Chair for Pediatric Clinical Services at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY. Previous to joining Maimonides, Dr. Foltin was the Division Director for Pediatric

Emergency Medicine at Bellevue Hospital Center/NYU Langone Medical Center for twenty five years. His specialty is Pediatric Hospital Medicine as well as Pediatric Emergency Medicine. Dr. Foltin has dedicated his career to developing emergency services for children and pediatric trauma programs. He is also experienced at disaster preparedness for children.

Dr. Michael Frogel.MD, FAAP. Is a pediatrician and part of the NYC Pediatric Disaster Coalition. He practices at Cohen's Children's Hospital, part of North Shore University Hospital, as well as conducting humanitarian work in Israel.

## MRC in Action

### FDNY Citifield Exercise



On June 27<sup>th</sup>, a very hot and humid night, 59 members of NYC MRC participated in a full scale exercise at Citifield the NY Mets home field. The goal was to help Citifield EMS and FDNY prepare for the All Star Game. MRC members were moulaged, and played victims in this fire scenario. This was their first experience for Citifield working with live patients. The staff at Citifield learned a great deal from MRC! Thank you to all those who participated.



## Articles of Interest

### New Information on MERS Highlights Need for Infection Control and Broad Case Definition

Two recent developments in the scientific and clinical understanding of MERS-CoV reinforce the fact the virus is capable of wide dissemination, especially within hospitals. Currently, 64 cases and 38 deaths have been reported.

To read more, go to: <http://www.upmc-cbn.org/index.html>

### Promoting Food Security in Disaster Relief Situations

The charitable supply chain for food relief is a significant nutritional delivery mechanism within the United States, and proves to be important during a disaster.

To read more about this, go to

[http://domesticpreparedness.com/Industry/Private\\_Sector/Promoting\\_Food\\_Security\\_in\\_Disaster\\_Relief\\_Situations/](http://domesticpreparedness.com/Industry/Private_Sector/Promoting_Food_Security_in_Disaster_Relief_Situations/)

### Preparedness Key to Combating Potential Pandemic Resulting From Any New Influenza Strain

Experts at the annual General Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology held in Denver in May emphasized the importance of preparing a nimble response to all influenza strains with such potential.

To read more, go to:

[http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleID=1707716&utm\\_source=Silverchair%20Information%20Systems&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=MASTER:JAMALatestIssueTOCNotification07/02/2013](http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleID=1707716&utm_source=Silverchair%20Information%20Systems&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=MASTER:JAMALatestIssueTOCNotification07/02/2013)

### **The Big Picture: The Role of Mapping in Assessing Disaster Damages**

One of the main goals of FEMA's geospatial team is to provide accurate, readily available, and timely information to support first responders and local officials. By posting the data they collect and analyze publicly, private companies can leverage that information to reach a larger audience during times of crisis.

To read more, go to: <https://www.fema.gov/blog/2013-06-07/big-picture-role-mapping-assessing-disaster-damages>