



New York City Medical Reserve Corps



March 2013

42-09 28 St., Queens NY 11101

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MRC in Action: POD Training

On Saturday, March 2nd, 96 MRC members rose early to attend the **MRC POD Training** at St. Paul's church, near Columbus Circle in Manhattan.



First they experienced running a mock POD (Point of Dispensing) clinic. They played the roles of screeners, dispensers, flow monitors, supply management, and all the other vital roles that are required to make a successful POD. Then they rotated through modules that explained in detail what each job in the POD requires from its staff.



Why I Volunteer



Name: Vimala Bhatt, MD
MRC Member since 2009

Profession: Anesthesiologist (retired)

What MRC/CCC activities have you participated in lately?

FDNY/Montefiore Med Surge Exercise
LIJ Decon Exercise
Hurricane Sandy Shelter volunteer
POD Exercise

Are you involved in any other volunteer activities?

Camp Doctor at a children's summer camp
India Center of Westchester volunteer

Why do you volunteer?

I have always loved the city and the energy that goes with the city. When I retired, it was an opportunity to be part of this community and contribute in a small way.

The MRC has done a great job by organizing and providing a much needed service to NYC. Thanks to all at MRC.

I am proud to be part of this great group of volunteers. It was humbling to see how some of the volunteers had walked 5 miles to reach a shelter to help.

This full day from 9:00am – 4:30pm was intense, action packed, and very successful. Our members came away with an understanding of how PODs work and what their roles would be.

Michelle Davis, Region II Health Administrator for the Department of Health and Human Services joined us for the day. She was impressed by the dedication of our MRC members and by the quality of the training.

If you were unable to attend this training, there is another opportunity to participate in a POD training this June. Please see the list of trainings below.

MRC Members in Action: NYC Half Marathon

On Sunday, March 17, four MRC members braved wintry weather to help with the NYRRC's Half Marathon.

Robin Jane Solvang, RDH (Dental Hygiene), Elizabeth G Campos, PT (Physical Therapist), Jane Neufeld, RN (Nurse) and Kristine May Parcon, PT (Physical Therapist) were assigned to work in the finish line from 5:30am until 12noon and they were kept very busy helping the runners. More than 14,000 runners started the race, the first major one put on by the New York Road Runners since their signature event, the New York City Marathon, was canceled by Superstorm Sandy.



MRC TRAININGS

MRC Orientation

Thursday, March 21

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm (5:30pm – registration and food)

Location: The Churchill School, 301 East 29th Street, Manhattan

To register, go to: <http://nycmedicalreservecorpsorientationmarch2013.eventbrite.com/#>

This training is an introduction to MRC. It is a great over view for both new members and longtime members, and is the prerequisite for our most popular trainings. Orientation covers how MRC fits into the bigger emergency response picture, what MRC members will do, what protections are offered, and what you can do to be prepared.

All Hazards Training for Mental Health Professionals

Thursday, March 28

Thursday, April 25

Friday, May 10

Time: 9:00am – 5:00pm (8:30am breakfast & registration)

Location: NYC Department of Health, 42-09 28 Street, Long Island City, NY

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

Medical Response to Radiation and Nuclear Incidents

Tuesday, April 16th

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm (5:30 pm – food and registration)

Location: The Churchill School, 301 East 29th Street, Manhattan

To register, go to: <http://nycmrcresponsetoradiationnuclearincidents.eventbrite.com/#>

Join in the discussion of the medical response in radiological and nuclear emergencies. Using a true case from the annuals of radiation medicine, a talk will begin with a brief summary of the health effects from radiation then segue into the medical aspects of the emergency response to radiological and nuclear incidents. Described will be the emergency actions by first responders on-site, in the emergency department and hospital as well as a discussion of the mental health effects that have occurred in prior radiological incidents.

Infection and Exposure Control in a Biological Emergency

Wednesday, April 24th

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm (5:30pm – registration and food)

To register, go to: <http://nycmedicalreservecorpsinfectionexposurecontrol.eventbrite.com/#>

DOHMH is responsible, in biological emergencies, for preventing exposure and transmission in all sectors of NYC. This effort is challenged by the size of the city, and by the many and intricate interfaces and interactions between and among populations, infrastructures, and environments.



Standard infection and exposure control guidance tends to address discrete populations, predictable exposures, and controlled environments. Nevertheless, established infection control principles, adapted to account for scale, complexity, and uncertainty, provide a sound basis for effectively managing all phases of a biological emergency.

This presentation covers the basics of large scale, population based, infection and exposure control in our multifaceted and densely populated urban environment. Department of Health Infection Control Coordinator, Pamela Kellner, RN, MPH will give this presentation.

Free Online Courses

Clear and concise risk messaging is essential to communicate information during a disaster. The media are a resource to health agencies before, during and following a public health crisis and there are a variety of types of media through which to disseminate messages to the public. This free online certificate course is designed to be an introduction into the basic concepts and practices of risk and crisis communication. Intended for the public health audience with a role to communicate with the public through the media during a crisis, this course will familiarize participants with fundamental principles of communication during public health emergencies.

To register/enroll in this course, go to:

<http://ncdp.crlctraining.org/catalog/course.asp?id=51&cid=3>

NEW! PREP 1112 Methods of Risk Assessment in Planning for Disasters

Hazards can be both natural and technological/man-made. It is important to consider all five categories of vulnerability - assessing both hazards and their vulnerability allows you to characterize risk for emergency planning purposes. This course is designed to introduce learners to the basic process of conducting a hazard and vulnerability assessment for their community. We examine the fundamental concepts of hazard identification and vulnerability assessment to determine public health risk for emergency planning purposes. **To register for this course, go to:** <http://ncdp.crlctraining.org/catalog/course.asp?id=50&cid=3>

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

NYC Enlists Volunteer Techies in Disaster Recovery

On February 14, 2013, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced a new initiative, *Code Corps* that enlists volunteer technology experts to assist city government with its emergency and disaster recovery needs. To read more about this, go to:

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/NYCs-Code-Corps.html>

What the World (Particularly Medical Doctors) Can Learn from Veterinarians

Although many veterinarians are caregivers for domestic animals, they also contribute to other missions such as minimizing the transmission of infectious diseases. To read more about this go to:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/joan-c-hendricks-vmd-phd/what-the-world-particular_b_2806181.html?utm_source=BNT%2C+March+6%2C+2013&utm_campaign=BNT030513&utm_medium=email

Radiological Disasters: What's the Difference?

This report provides an overview of three different types of radiological disasters: a terrorist nuclear detonation, radiological dispersal devices, and a nuclear power plant disaster. It is important to understand these differences in order to make more informed decisions about preparedness and response. To read more, go to: [http://www.upmc-](http://www.upmc-biosecurity.org/website/resources/publications/2012/2012-12-05-rad_disasters.html)

[biosecurity.org/website/resources/publications/2012/2012-12-05-rad_disasters.html](http://www.upmc-biosecurity.org/website/resources/publications/2012/2012-12-05-rad_disasters.html)