



September 2012

Note from the U of M Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator

September has been designated as National Preparedness month. As a collective group, we are stepping up to the plate to enhance the preparedness of the University of Minnesota in the event there is a large scale public health emergency on campus.

Our MRC unit is also involved in preparedness and response efforts that benefit the greater metropolitan and state communities. Please click on the link to learn more about how our Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team has been preparing for their role in a large scale bio-terrorism event that could affect the metropolitan area.

http://youtu.be/CmWL_xS7_ow

Best regards,

Kathy

Kathy Berlin RN, PHN
U of M Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator
Academic Health Center Office of Emergency Response

Logistics Strike Team Members Needed: Fall Meeting Sept. 26

Would you like to be more involved with the MRC? Do you like to organize and set up for events? Do you like to work with supplies? Then you may enjoy joining the MRC Logistics Strike Team.

Members of this team help at MRC training events and deployments. They are responsible for the physical set up of the site. Pre-event physical set up includes setting up signage, Tensa barriers, tables, chairs, equipment and other supplies as needed. During MRC events and deployments members of this team assist with member check-in, supply management, and the care and support of MRC members.

Logistics Strike Team Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 26

Time: 4:00pm-5:30pm

Location: Mayo Auditorium – 4th Floor Mayo Memorial Building

Participants: Current team members and those interested in learning more about the team
To Register: Send an email to medicalreserve@umn.edu. Please RSVP by Friday, September 21, 2012

Additional Information:

- We will review team member roles and responsibilities and discuss 2012 team goals and activities.
- Pizza and beverages will be provided.
- Membership in this Strike Team may be of particular interest to those MRC members who do not currently have a medical or health professional license.
- 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.

Psychological First Aid

Psychological First Aid (PFA) is an approach to helping others in the aftermath of a disaster or crisis in a way that promotes safety, calm connectedness and resiliency. PFA is used around the world by health care and non-health care responders alike. Our MRC has offered PFA in a face to face class to our MRC members and it is now also available in an online version.

- **Psychological First Aid (PFA)-Online Training**

This course takes about 75 minutes to complete. It is geared toward anyone who may be responding to help others in a crisis. Once you have completed the course, send in your name and date of completion to be placed on your MRC training record: medicalreserve@umn.edu

http://pfa.naccho.org/pfa/pfa_start.html

- **New Psychological First Aid (PFA) Tutorial Mobile App**

If you have taken PFA check out this new app. The University of Minnesota School of Public Health and the U-SEEE PERL Center are excited to announce the Psychological First Aid (PFA) Tutorial App. The Tutorial provides a just-in-time review of the four core actions of PFA, reviews ways to engage with disaster survivors, lists common reactions to traumatic events, and provides an opportunity to check understanding in practice scenarios. First responders, health care providers, mental health providers, MRC volunteers, students, and others will find this an easy to use resource while in the field following a traumatic event, natural disaster, public health emergency, act of terrorism, or personal crisis.

<http://www.sph.umn.edu/ce/perl/mobile/>

Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team News

The U of M MRC unit has the unique distinction of being the only MRC unit in the state to have

been approached by the Minnesota State Health Department to serve as the repackaging workforce in the Twin Cities Metro Region Pharmaceutical Cache Plan and we feel it is an exceptional opportunity to be of service to the greater metropolitan area.

One hundred seventeen U of M MRC members received training last spring during the U of M MRC Pharmaceutical Cache Repackaging Drill. We are currently looking for an additional 20-30 members for this Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team.

We will be holding a meeting in October for current and prospective members. Current members who attended the Pharm Cache Repackaging drill will have the opportunity to practice the repackaging skills. That being said, current members who received training last spring are not required to attend this training. New members will be provided with an overview of team member roles and responsibilities, be introduced to repackaging techniques, and have the opportunity to practice the repackaging techniques in a low-stress environment.

Specifics on this important team meeting will be included in the October newsletter.

Member Corner

Question: I am interested in participating in the Veterinary Medicine Response Strike Team. Are there any team events scheduled in the next few months?

Answer: There will be a Veterinary Medicine Response Strike Team meeting on Wednesday, November 14. The meeting is scheduled for noon and will take place on the St. Paul campus. More details regarding this team meeting will be provided in the October MRC newsletter.

We welcome questions and comments from MRC members. Email comments or questions to medicalreserve@umn.edu or call Kathy Berlin, MRC Coordinator at 612-626-4722.

AHC Office of Emergency Response

Staff

Jill DeBoer, MPH
Director
jdeboer@umn.edu
612-625-3958

Kathy Berlin, RN, PHN
MRC Coordinator
berli034@umn.edu
612 626-4722

Joan Rambeck, MS, RN, CNP
Logistics & Training
rambe026@umn.edu
612-624-2286