



October 2012

Note from the U of M Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator

MRC strike teams have been developed within the U of M Medical Reserve Corps Program to enhance emergency response activities. Being a part of a strike team offers members an opportunity to align their participation in the MRC with their expertise and interest.

Although the specific work of the strike teams highlighted in this newsletter may be of particular interest to students, staff and faculty of the College of Pharmacy or College of Veterinary Medicine, the teams are open to any MRC member with an interest in participating on these strike teams.

Best regards,

Kathy

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

Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team Meeting

The University of Minnesota Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is seeking additional members for its **MRC Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team**. This team has been formed at the request of the Minnesota Department of Health. Antibiotics are stored in large bulk quantities for use during a public health emergency. Those antibiotics will need to be repackaged into smaller individual bags at the time of the emergency. That repackaging is the responsibility of this team. Last spring 117 team members received training during the U of M MRC Pharmaceutical Cache Repackaging Drill. More members are needed and we invite all MRC members to consider joining the Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team.

You are invited to a Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team meeting being held on Thursday, October 25, from 5:00pm-6:30pm. Dr. Nick Kelley will speak about the epidemiology and treatment of anthrax and its significance for emergency preparedness. New members will learn about the team, roles and responsibilities of team members, and have the opportunity to practice the repackaging techniques. Current members who attended the spring drill will have the opportunity to practice repackaging again, meet fellow members and learn about anthrax.

Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 25

Time: 5:00pm-6:15pm/6:30pm

Location: Moos Tower, room 1-451

Participants: Current Repackaging Team members and those interested in learning more about the team

To Register: Send an email to medicalreserve@umn.edu. Please RSVP by Tuesday, October 23

Additional Information:

- We will review team member roles and responsibilities and practice repackaging
- Pizza and beverages will be provided.
- Membership in this 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 leader, Chrystian Pereira, and familiarize themselves with the role of the Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team within the broader Metropolitan Pharmaceutical Cache Plan.

Veterinary Medicine Response Strike Team Meeting

The University of Minnesota Medical Reserve Corps Veterinary Medicine Response Strike Team recognizes the important role of the veterinary profession in responding to local and national animal health related emergencies/disasters.

This response strike team is hosted by the College of Veterinary Medicine. The team leader is Dr. Larissa Minicucci, VPH Program Director, Veterinary Population Medicine.

Current Veterinary Medicine Response Team members and individuals interested in learning more about the team are invited to attend the Veterinary Medicine Response Strike Team meeting on Wednesday, November 14.

This meeting is designed to provide an overview of the MRC with a focus on activities, training events, and past and potential deployments of the Veterinary Medicine Response Strike Team.

Veterinary Medicine Response Team Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 14

Time: 12:00pm-12:50pm

Location: Animal Science Vet Med Building, room 125

Participants: Current members and individuals interested in learning more about the team

To Register: Send an email to medicalreserve@umn.edu. Please RSVP by Monday, November 12

Additional Information:

- Pizza and beverages will be provided.

Member Corner

Question: I am interested in attending the Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team Training on October 25. Do I need to have a background in pharmacy or have any specific licensure?

Answer: No, we are looking for any MRC member who has an interest in working with others, being prepared to respond if the team is deployed, and learning more about preparedness plans.

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.

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