

FOR MORE INFORMATION
and to REGISTER

VOLUNTEER
FOR NEW YORK CITY'S HEALTH
PREPAREDNESS TEAM



Visit www.nyc.gov/medicalreservecorps or call 311 if you don't have Internet access. You will be asked to provide contact information, a summary of your skills, license number and other practice information. Shortly after registering, volunteers receive an e-mail containing their log-in name for online use. NYC MRC educational programs, DOHMH continuing education programs, and the Health Alert Network (HAN) — an information sharing forum for medical providers — are available online.

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Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor
Thomas Farley, MD, MPH
Commissioner



HEALTH
PROFESSIONALS
HELPING
NEW YORK CITY

The New York City Medical Reserve Corps

The New York City Medical Reserve Corps (NYC MRC) enhances New York City's (NYC) emergency preparedness by ensuring that a trained group of volunteer health professionals is ready to respond to health emergencies. The NYC MRC works in partnership with professional associations, universities and hospitals to organize this multidisciplinary group of volunteer health professionals. Although the MRC is a federal initiative, NYC's team was created by the city's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) to support the emergency needs of our local area. A rapid emergency response will help provide a timely return to stability for our communities. NYC MRC volunteers can play a critical role in making this happen by being part of a pre-identified, pre-credentialed, and pre-trained group of potential responders.

What Does the New York City Medical Reserve Corps Do?

The primary role of the NYC MRC is to help distribute antibiotics or vaccine to a large number of New Yorkers during a health emergency requiring mass prophylaxis. Volunteers may also be asked to assist with medical surge capacity (e.g., during a pandemic influenza outbreak) and mass sheltering operations (e.g., during a coastal storm).

NYC MRC volunteers may be called upon to fulfill other functions, such as:

- Medical evaluation
- Vaccination
- Distribution of medication
- Patient education
- Screening
- Patient "flow monitoring"
- Psychological first aid

As a volunteer, you will be provided with appropriate medications and vaccines, and given specific training for a variety of potential duties.

Every effort will be made to match the emergency roles of volunteers with their professional skills and licensure.

Who Can Volunteer?

Any licensed or certified health professional, or health profession student, who lives or works in NYC can join. A wide range of health professionals—including physicians, pharmacists, dentists, nurses, nurse practitioners, mental health providers and others—is needed. A large-scale health emergency would require the help of thousands of health professionals.

What Training Is Available?

Volunteers may participate in several online and in-person trainings that are offered each year. All online and some in-person trainings are also available for Continuing Medical, Nursing, Dental, and Pharmacy Education credits.

Are Volunteers Covered Against Malpractice?

NYC MRC volunteers are indemnified under General Municipal Law Section § 50-k against malpractice for volunteer work performed with DOHMH.

How Will I Be Notified if the New York City Medical Reserve Corps Is Activated?

In the event of a public health emergency, DOHMH will use an automated system to provide instructions by phone, pager, e-mail, and/or fax on where and when to report.