

THE MRC REPORTER
NEWSLETTER FOR THE
SONOMA COUNTY MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS
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SUMMER 2005

MASS DISPENSING SITE EXERCISE: SUCCESS!

- **June 23rd, 2005 Mass Dispensing Site Exercise**

- Thanks to everyone who participated in the June 23rd mass dispensing site exercise at Montgomery High School. No matter whether you were called on to be a line monitor, a medical screener, or any other position, each role is important! Your professionalism and hard work made the exercise a success!

This exercise tested the operating procedures for a large public medication dispensing site. These procedures are part of the Public Health Emergency Response Plan, a dynamic document that is regularly reviewed and revised.

The purpose of the exercise was to test and evaluate the procedures and position checklists for deploying a mass dispensing site. Everyone completed a feedback form after the exercise, but if you have any other suggestions or comments, please drop us an email at dhs-mrc@sonoma-county.org. This feedback is being reviewed, and will help us prepare the "After Action Report," which will include recommendations for improvements to the Plan.

For those of you that were not able to attend, we hope that you will be able to participate in future drills.

- **The Notification System: One size Fits All**

- The script used by the phone notification system to call up volunteers the day before the mass dispensing site exercise caused a bit of confusion. The call up message is a voice recording, and at first the message may sound like a phone solicitor. But it is not!

Because this system is used by our emergency services to call up many types of workers (not just MRC), the opening statement begins with “This is an important message...” What you need to know to report for duty will follow.

It is important that everyone know how the call up message begins, so that you don't accidentally hang up or delete the message before you receive the important information. Of course, it is critical that you keep your contact information current, so you can receive these call up instructions. To update your contact information, visit our website at : www.sonoma-county.org/mrc or call 707-565-4427.

UPCOMING TRAININGS AND EXERCISES

- **Grand Rounds at Public Health**
 - All Medical Reserve Corps volunteers are cordially invited to attend the monthly Grand Rounds held at Public Health, 625 Fifth Street, Santa Rosa on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 12:15 to 1:15pm. Space is limited so you will need to reserve a space by either leaving a message at 707-565-4496 or email phtraining@sonoma-county.org. One (1) continuing education unit is available for currently licensed medical doctors and nurses.

- **Tell your friends and co-workers**
 - We are offering another round of orientation trainings for licensed health professionals who have not taken this introductory training. If you have friends or co-workers who are interested in becoming a volunteer member of the Medical Reserve Corps, this is an opportunity for them to join in. The next orientation training will be held on November 9th, 2005 from 9:30 to 12:30 in Santa Rosa. Three (3) CEU are available for attending this training.

For further information or to find out what other training dates are available call Gabrielle at 707-565-4427 or email dhs-mrc@sonoma-county.org. Check our website for a complete list of training dates www.sonoma-county.org/mrc.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITES

- **Community Flu Clinics:**

Once again the MRC has a great opportunity to participate in serving the Sonoma County community. Flu season is fast approaching, and the Sonoma County Flu Task Force is sponsoring "Flu Shot Saturday." Flu shots will be offered to the public on November 12th and December 3rd, at eight locations around the county.

Volunteers work from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on one or both of the two clinic days. Your duties might include administering vaccine, screening, line monitoring and/or traffic control. MRC volunteers with active nurse or doctor licenses can administer vaccine; all other positions are open to all MRC volunteers.

Your participation is crucial to the success of flu shot Saturday! Interested volunteers can sign-up on line at www.sonoma-county.org/mrc or call 707-565-4427.

REMEMBER to check our website:

www.sonoma-county.org/mrc

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