

Credentialing Your MRC Volunteers

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Overview

- Role of the Medical Reserve Corps/NYC
- Pre-event credentialing
- Post-event credentialing



Role of Medical Reserve Corps/ NYC

- Any health professional with a valid state license or certification is eligible to volunteer
- The MRC/ NYC will support Points-of-Dispensing (PODs) for mass prophylaxis
 - Vaccine
 - Antibiotics



Status of MRC/NYC

- 2,834 volunteers registered as of 7/13/04
 - 50% physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and nurses
 - 30% other health professionals, including pharmacists, veterinarians, podiatrists, and dentists
 - 20% mental health support staff



Pre-event Credentialing

- Targeted recruitment aids the credentialing process
 - State licensing lists
 - Partnerships with professional societies/organizations
 - Organizational partnerships



State Licensing Lists

- NY State licensing lists obtained for health professionals licensed in NYC
- Invitation letter sent to ~156,000 in January 2004 from Commissioner of Health
- Majority of registrations to date have come from that mailing



State Licensing Lists (2)

- Registrations checked against NY state licensing lists
- Updated lists obtained from the state on an annual basis



Partnerships with Professional Societies/Organizations

- Work with professional groups to target members
 - E.g., state and county medical and nursing societies



NYC Has Partnerships with Hospitals and Primary Care Centers

- NYC DOHMH Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program (BHPP)
 - BHPP works with the medical care delivery system (hospitals, primary care centers, poison control centers and emergency medical services) to provide an integrated response during a citywide emergency
 - Interaction with hospital BT coordinators and Primary Care Center staff to disseminate MRC information



MRC Identification Cards

- Upon verification of licensing/certification, ID cards sent to volunteers
 - Name and degree with expiration date



Post-event Credentialing

- MRC Volunteers
 - MRC ID cards and a valid photo ID
- Other health professionals
 - Photo ID and a copy of current license
- State licensing lists loaded onto laptops for on-site credentialing at Alpha PODs

