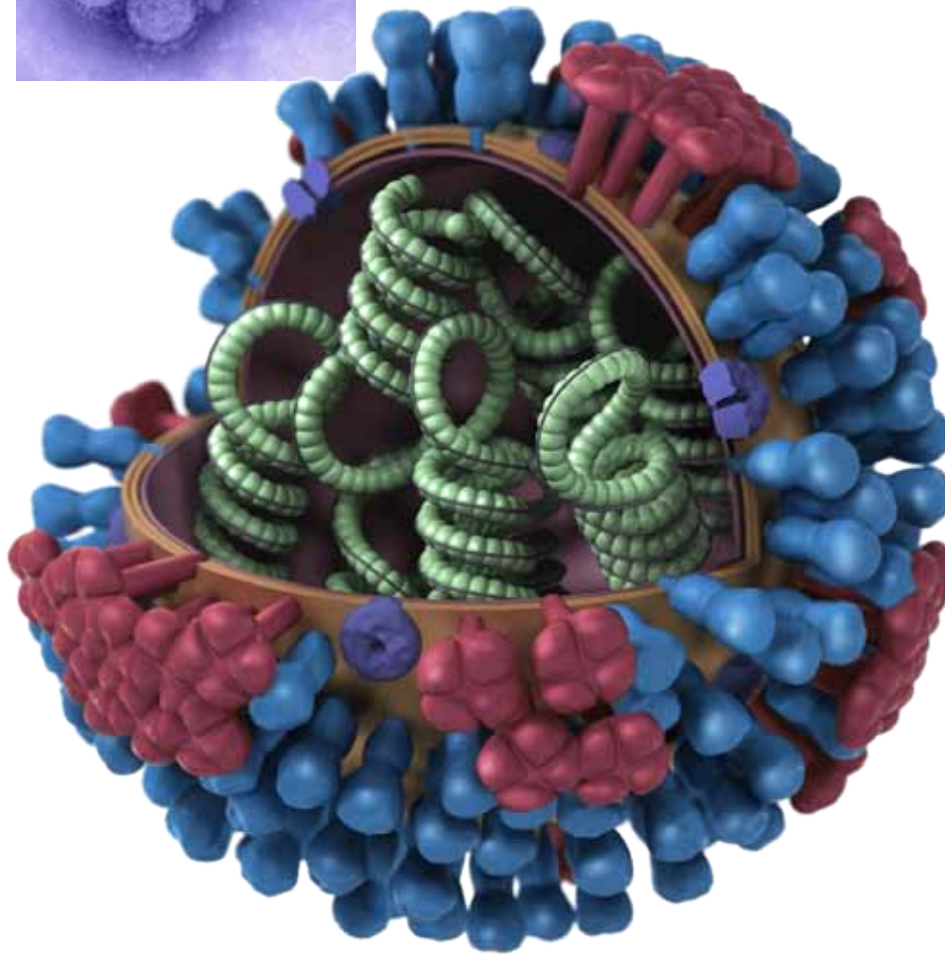




H1N1 INFLUENZA - LATEST NEWS FOR ORANGE COUNTY

<http://ochealthinfo.com/h1n1/>



Hemagglutinin



Neuraminidase



M2 Ion Channel



RNP

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>

ORANGE COUNTY MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

MRC

ORANGE COUNTY

Orange County MRC Committees

Mental Health	John Caccavale, PhD, ABMP Lori Creasey, JD, Chairpersons
Newsletter	Ramon Perez, MD
Pharmacy	Thuy Nguyen
Security	Chris Wright, CPP
Staff Support	David McCall
Veterinary	Cynthia Bacmeister, DVM David Kieltyka, MRC Veterinarian Training

Volunteer Count

Physicians	50
Physician Assistants	10
Nurse Practitioners	5
Nurses	200
Pharmacists	121
Dentists	13
Veterinarians	9
Mental Health Professionals	105
EMS Professionals	70
Respiratory Therapists	1
Other Public Health/Medical	100
Non-Public Health Non-Medical	316
Total	1,000

IN THE NEWS

Amateur Radio Bill Passes Senate, Moves to the House

On Monday, December 14, S 1755 -- The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 -- passed the Senate by unanimous consent; the bill now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration. Sponsored by Senator Joe Lieberman (ID-CT), and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), S 1755, if passed, would direct the DHS to undertake a study on emergency communications. S 1755 points out that "There is a strong Federal interest in the effective performance of Amateur Radio Service stations, and that performance must be given -- (A) support at all levels of government; and (B) protection against unreasonable regulation and impediments to the provision of the valuable communications provided by such stations."

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ready to volunteer?

Call the OC MRC Office at
(714) 834-2335
to receive instructions

Help build our volunteer base

Get ready now!

Do not wait for a disaster



Content

Volunteer	2
News	3
Activities	4
Awards	5



IN THE NEWS

NEW YEAR 2010

Orange County Medical Reserve Corps Is Looking Back and Moving Forward

Peggy McCormick,
Orange County Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator

The Health Care Agency's Health Disaster Management Division would like to thank each Orange County MRC Volunteer for their time and commitment to the Agency's needs. Since April, Orange County Medical Reserve Corps Volunteers have so much to be proud of as we approach the New Year 2010.

July 1, 2009 the excitement was incredible when the OC MRC hit the 800 volunteer recruitment goal set in 2007, then in November, 2009 just four months later we quickly increased that recruitment goal to the 1,000 volunteer mark. Many new faces have joined us and they have been involved in many of our Health Care Agency's exercises and trainings. As we move closer to 2010 we are looking forward to more involvement and many new opportunities as the MRC Volunteers and this program continue to grow and support the Health Care Agency and Public Health needs during and after disasters.

Orange County MRC Volunteers have been extremely active the entire 2009 year by being placed in leadership roles at vaccination pods to vaccinate the public with H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccines. Many MRC nurses, physicians, EMTs, dentists and clerical staff assisted school nurses at many school sites giving flu vaccinations to the students. MRC Volunteers assisting at schools with other vaccinators gave as many as 1,600 to 1,800 vaccinations in a day. Many MRC volunteers rearranged work, vacation schedules, and days off to provide this much needed service to our school districts to make sure the vaccinations happened.

MRC volunteers attended five trainings provided by Public Health staff to give them information about H1N1, injections, and mist, as well as seasonal flu information to prepare each volunteer to assist at the Public Health Clinics that began in October through present. Clinics were cancelled and rescheduled and when vaccines did arrive, the MRC Volunteers were resilient and willing to attend the clinics with many volunteering nine hours on a scheduled day.

MRC Volunteers have assisted in the Epidemiology Division by supporting staff with special projects and taking in new information on a daily basis that assisted them in the clinics. MRC volunteers served as screeners at clinic sites preparing the client to approach the injection point with the vaccinator. Volunteers working the clinics showed up for their shifts at 7:30 a.m. and worked until clinic closing at 5:00 p.m. Volunteers gave their weekend time and days just before the December 24 and 25 holidays to make sure requests for the flu vaccines were being completed. MRC Volunteers were amazing, and have emailed asking to be involved at the next event, clinic, or any need of the Agency. Those volunteers working the Public Health clinics expressed the professionalism of the staff and how well organized the clinics were.

Yes, we can be proud for all we have done this past year but the Health Care Agency, Health Disaster Management Division and Public Health Services Division are very proud of each volunteer in the MRC who gave themselves, their time, energy, and professionalism to our public's needs.

Thank you MRC Volunteers for joining this great organization and for your compassion to the needs of our Orange County communities and for making 2009 such a great year for volunteerism.



Dec. 26, 2009, Marks Five Years Since Sumatra Indonesia Tsunami Killed 230,000

In December 2004, lack of an effective international warning system contributed to unprecedented loss of life when a tsunami devastated countless communities around the Indian Ocean and stunned the rest of the world. Through NOAA, the United States accelerated preparation for a potential tsunami along the U.S. coastline and efforts to build partnerships for an international warning program. According to NOAA tsunami experts, the key to surviving a destructive tsunami is people's ability to receive warnings and willingness to act quickly to move inland or to higher ground. "NOAA is advancing tsunami science and warning systems for America and many at-risk parts of the world," said Jane Lubchenco, Ph.D., under secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "Our efforts cannot stop with researching, developing technology and issuing forecasts – successful early warning ultimately relies on communicating the threat clearly so a prepared population will be able to act responsibly."

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The Orange County Medical Reserve Corps Volunteers have assisted Orange County School Nurses to administer seasonal flu and H1N1 vaccines to school children. Since October 24, 2009, MRC Volunteer Nurses, Physicians, EMT's and Clerical staff have volunteered their professional experience to work with the school vaccination clinics.

Orange County Medical Reserve Corps volunteered for the Health Care Agency PODs to vaccinate the communities of Orange County for H1N1 and regular seasonal flu. The OC MRC Volunteers enjoyed working the vaccination PODs held at the Crystal Cathedral, Cox Communications, Fullerton College, Cypress City Hall, Irvine Valley College, Santa Ana College, and Public Health Clinics in Santa Ana working with Health Care Agency staff. The Health Care Agency would like to thank all the MRC Volunteers for their time and commitment to the Agency's vaccination clinic goals and meeting the public's needs during this year's flu season.



Patients queue up at IVC to receive H1N1 vaccine.



Crowds gather at Cox Communications to get vaccinated



OTHER RECENT ACTIVITIES

12/1/2009

School H1N1 Clinic

10/30/2009

On October 30, 2009 the Orange County MRC Volunteers RN's, Pharmacists, MD's will have leadership roles in the three city vaccination PODs. The flu vaccination PODs will be held in Rancho Santa Margarita, Santa Ana, and Orange.

10/23/2009

This is our first flu clinic since the three class trainings. RNs, EMTs, Pharmacy

Interns, Pharmacists, and interpreters of the Orange County MRC will start these weekend clinics and run them through December 19, 2009 or as long as the vaccine lasts. They will be giving seasonal flu shots and H1N1 when it is available.

10/23/2009

Public Health training OC MRC Nurses on H1N1 to prepare for upcoming flu clinics at public schools.

10/23/2009

Public Health training OC MRC Nurses on H1N1 to prepare for upcoming flu clinics at public schools.

<http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov/>

MRC

ORANGE COUNTY

MRC AWARD



Agency Director Dave Riley presented Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Coordinator Peggy McCormick with a 2009 Excellence in Volunteering Award during the Nov. 5 Employee Recognition Awards. Also pictured are two MRC volunteers Cathy Diganci and R.J. Hansen. The MRC volunteers recently assisted HCA in staffing the yearly seasonal flu point of distribution (POD) exercise, as well as H1N1 vaccination clinics held during several weekends.

FAREWELL PEGGY!

The Orange County Medical Reserve Corps Program has held a special place in my heart for the past five years. I know for a fact the most important part of this Orange County program are the Volunteers. The Orange County Medical Reserve Corps has 1,000 medical and non-medical professionals who are amazing and the Health Care Agency is so proud of this outstanding group of disaster volunteers who are so willing to assist when the call for help is sent out.

We have been activated for Red Cross Shelters during the 2007 and 2008 Fires, a 2009 vaccine inventory at 1:00 a.m. and for the Public Health H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccination clinics. One of our major highlights was helping school district nurses with flu clinics and now continuing Public Health Clinics into 2010.

The excitement of recruiting and working with each of you has been a very high point in my career. While having such a great opportunity to work for a nationally recognized program that is sponsored under the Office of the United States Surgeon General, to work with staff from the State of California Office of the Governor, and be a member of the State and local Citizen Corps

Councils, and a member of several State and National MRC Workgroups such as the National Association of City and County Health Officials, (NACCHO) I can only tell you how wonderful the past five years have been.

I want to express my gratitude and respect to each of you as I move in a new career path with the Health Care Agency Human Resources Department. Tuoi Tran will be your Orange County MRC Coordinator, so when you receive any future messages, they will be coming from Tuoi, our MRC telephone number will remain the same (714) 834-2335 and Tuoi's email is ttran@ochca.com

Again thank you to each of you for all your support to this program, to me as the MRC Coordinator and especially to the Orange County Health Care Agency. Please continue to recruit and build this program and please continue to support our Health Care Agency's staff when you receive your call to help.

Sincerely,

Peggy E. McCormick

VOLUNTEERS

Orange County Businesses and Organizations that have joined as Volunteers. Thank you for all your support.

American Academy of Pediatrics

ASIS Security Organization

Beckman Coulter, Brea

California Association Licensed Investigators

California Association Licensed Investigators
(200)-Pomona Valley

CalOptima

Calvary Chapel

Goldwing Road Riders Chapter R-Irvine

Goldwing Road Riders Buena Park Chapter

Huntington Beach Fire Academy

Impressions Magazine OC Dentist Association

Las Lomas Clinic Nurses and Physicians

Local 324 Pharmacist Union

Leisure World Seal Beach

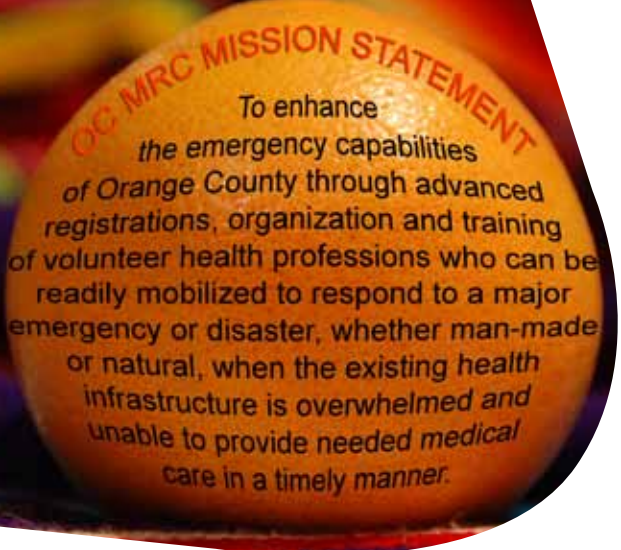
Leisure World Republican Women's Group

North County Jaycees

Trauma Intervention Program (TIP)

If any MRC Volunteer would like a presentation to your business or special membership organization, please call the MRC Office and ask for a speaker.





Advisory Board Members

- Cynthia Bacmeister, DVM**
- William Buster, MD**
- Mark Chew, Pharm D**
Chief Pharmacist, DMAT, HCA
- Cynthia Coad, OTR, EdD**
Past President, OC Citizen Corps Council
- Thomas Coad, DDS**
- Kristin Gericke, Pharm D**
Director Clinical Pharmacy Management
CalOptima
- William Habermehl**
Superintendent
County Office of Education
- Ken Miller, MD, PhD**
HCA Emergency Medical Services
- Thuy Nguyen, RPh**
OC MRC Pharmacy Committee
- Vicki Osborn**
OC Sheriff's Department
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- Julie Puentes**
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- David L. Riley**
Director, OC Health Care Agency
- Herb Rosenzweig, RPh**
- Bill Stout**
Director, Disaster Services
American Red Cross
- Jeffrey Thrash**
Executive Director
Mental Health Association OC
- Holly Veale**
Div Manager, Health Disaster
Management
- Chris M. Wright, CPP**
ASIS International

Peggy McCormick, MRC Coordinator
Orange County Medical Reserve Corps
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Santa Ana, CA 92701

Newsletter available online at:
<http://www.ohealthinfo.com/newsletters/mrc/index.htm>
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