

Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS)

Mission

The Minneapolis-Saint Paul MMRS mission is to support the integration of local emergency management, health, and medical systems into a coordinated initial response to large scale health/medical events caused by any hazard.

Vision

The vision of the MMRS is to reduce local consequences of incidents during the initial phase of a response through augmenting existing local operational response systems.

The components of the system include:

- Readiness of member agencies and community partners to respond to emergencies
- Access to assets such as the pharmaceutical/equipment/personnel protective equipment caches

Role of MMRS in Emergency Planning

MMRS expands and enhances local planning efforts in four important ways:

- 1) MMRS ensures interdisciplinary planning for mass casualty events between local fire, police, EMS, public health, hospitals, and emergency management
- 2) The MMRS program encourages, and financially supports, the expansion of emergency planning at the sub-state regional level, thus providing resources at the local level that would otherwise not be available to the community
- 3) The MMRS program ensures that local and regional public health and medical response planning is consistent with and supports state and federal emergency planning
- 4) The MMRS pharmaceutical stockpile provides a level of protection specifically for the first responder community in the event of a bioterrorism attack



Current Projects

- Enhance the Responder Dispense website which pre-screens medical information for first responder agencies to facilitate receipt of pharmaceutical assets in the first 24 hours of an event
- Provide 3E Hostile Event (Active Shooter) training for all first response personnel
- Sustain collaborative partnerships with local, county, and state first responder agencies and non-profit organizations to ensure readiness of emergency response to hazards

Looking Forward...

- 1) Update metropolitan pharmaceutical cache distribution plan.
- 2) Develop and exercise response plans.
- 3) Maintain and support operationalization of Responder Dispense website.
- 4) Identify and mitigate regional metro gaps and select priority capabilities and/or resource elements to address at the regional level.
- 5) Develop strategies to ensure regional coordination of local jurisdictions' existing assets and resources and enhance response activities to large-scale health and medical emergency incidents.

MMRS bridges the gap between federal and local resources related to medical response planning

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Regional Coordination

Drills/Exercises

- Sponsored full-scale exercise of Family Assistance Center (Operation Curtain Call)
- Sponsored U of M Repackaging Drills to exercise the metropolitan pharmaceutical cache distribution plan
- Sponsored Improvised Explosive Devise (IED) tabletop exercise

Plans and Planning

- Enhanced Mission Critical Responder Dispense online antibiotic screening form, in collaboration with Minnesota Department of Health
- Initiated and enacted plan development on a regionally applicable incident action plan for dealing with “active shooter” and post-explosion incidents
- Developed training curriculum for 3E Hostile Event (active shooter) training for first responders
- Revised metro pharmaceutical cache distribution plan
- Developed needs assessment and plan for purchase of mass care and sheltering equipment
- Reviewed local emergency plans to minimize potential casualties
- Developed policy on the destruction and disposal of expired medical equipment

Training

- Trained Hazmat providers in Toxic Medic Response
- Trained first responders in active shooter response using the 3E Hostile Event training curriculum
- Provided expertise to responder agencies to develop internal policies that incorporate 3E Hostile Event concepts

Training continued...

- Trained and provided technical assistance to member agencies on Responder Dispense
- Sponsored Incident Management Assistant Team (IMAT), Incident Emergency Management Course (IEMC), Incident Management Team (IMT) training for member agencies and ongoing regional Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) training and exercise

Tools

- Enhanced functionality features of Responder Dispense website
- Upgraded mobile acuity monitors equipment for MCI buses and EMS Strike Team
- Purchased, inventoried, and distributed medical equipment such as Duo Dotes (nerve-agent antidotes), Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) items to first responder agencies

Community Outreach and Education

- Collaborated with Bloomington Public Health to create faith-based community toolkit of emergency preparedness materials
- Partnered with Emergency, Community, Health and Outreach (ECHO) to create emergency information for limited English speaking communities about Mass Dispensing of Medicine, Shelter-in-place, Preparing for Mass Evacuation, Understanding Snow Emergency, and Severe Weather Warnings, and Radiological Dispersion Devices
- Partnered with ECHO to create an “Activation and Call Down” exercise, an Emergency Operation Procedure and Field Operation Guide, and a multilingual “Operation Fast Start” exercise. Also allowed ECHO to train and assist police and fire personnel in multicultural outreach

Metro MMRS Membership

The membership represents the multiple disciplinary agencies of the seven county metro counties and the cities of Saint Paul, Minneapolis, Bloomington, Edina, and Richfield.

Representative agencies include:

Emergency Medical Services

Hospitals (represented by the Hospital Compact)

Local Public Health

State and local Emergency Management

Local Fire and Hazmat

County and local Law Enforcement

State and local government

In addition, MMRS engages with other programs such as:

Cities Readiness Initiative

Strategic National Stockpile

Chempack

Emergency & Community Health Outreach

(ECHO)

Citizen Corps (MRC, CERT)

Military (represented by the National Guard and 55th CST)

National Disaster Medical System