



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
Thomas Farley, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

125 Worth Street
CN-28
New York, NY 10013
+1 212 788 5261 tel
+1 212 964-0472 fax

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Dear Colleague:

The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) considers emergency preparedness an important aspect of its mission to safeguard the health of all New Yorkers. The NYC Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is key component of that effort. The MRC is a multidisciplinary group of volunteer health professionals who can be called to service during a public health emergency. I would like to invite you, as a health professional living or working in New York City, to help enhance the City's readiness by joining the MRC.

As part of a pre-identified, pre-credentialed, and pre-trained group of volunteers, MRC members play a critical role in ensuring that the City's response to emergencies is prompt and effective. Among other activities, MRC volunteers may distribute antibiotics or vaccine during an emergency requiring mass prophylaxis, help with mass sheltering operations during a coastal storm, or augment staff at hospitals and clinics during public health emergencies.

MRC membership is a good-faith agreement. Registered volunteers agree to assist during an emergency only after they have satisfied commitments to their hospitals, private practices and families. Members are offered training on NYC's emergency plans and protocols so that they can serve more effectively during an emergency response. Both live and online trainings are available, and some offer continuing education credits. Volunteers also receive indemnification through General Municipal Law section 50-k if DOHMH activates the NYC MRC.

I hope you will accept this invitation to join the NYC MRC. The enclosed brochure briefly describes the program and explains how to register. Information is also available at www.nyc.gov/medicalreservecorps. Thank you in advance for helping us to safeguard the health of all New Yorkers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Farley".

Thomas A. Farley, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

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