MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS

- Use of MRC during disaster event in the hospital

Presented by:
Robin Ebmeyer, RN, MPA, MEP
Ruthann Jarvis, RN, MSN
Utah County Medical Reserve Corps (UCMRC) is dedicated to enhancing Utah County response capabilities during disasters and emergency events, providing medical care in mass casualty situations, and increasing the emergency preparedness of local citizens through health education.
MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS IN THE HOSPITAL

- MRC under direction of local health department
  - Process by application
  - Qualifications include background check, unencumbered license and training
  - Liability under Utah codes
    - 58-13-2 Emergency care rendered by licensee
    - 26A-1-126 Medical Reserve Corps
    - 58_13p2.6 Emergency care rendered by a person or health care facility
    - 63G-8-201 Voluntary Services-Immunity from liability-exceptions
    - 26-49 Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act

Training

Exercises

Response Efforts
WHAT CAN AN MRC MEMBER DO IN THE HOSPITAL?

Two Issues

1. What the MRC member is credentialed to do
2. What the hospital can let the MRC member do.
MRC vs. Spontaneous Volunteers

Importance of MRC to the hospital

- Credentialed
- Identified
- Trained
- Ready/Willing
MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS IN THE HOSPITAL

Advantages

1. Extra needed professionals.
2. Able to do more for patients because of extra volunteer staff.
MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS IN THE HOSPITAL

Disadvantages

1. Volunteers may do something different than what they are trained to do
2. Volunteers' skill set does not match what the hospital needs
Scenario: At 0200 on Saturday, September 10, an earthquake of magnitude 7.9 occurred in Utah County. The epicenter is located on the border of Lindon and North Orem. At 0400, the medical office building adjacent to Timpanogos Hospital collapsed toward the hospital causing major structural damage to the hospital. It has been determined that the hospital must be evacuated as quickly as possible. Other agencies have been notified and plans have been set in motion to evacuate patients to the following facilities.

- Utah Valley Regional Medical Center
  - American Fork Hospital
  - Orem Community Hospital
  - Utah Valley Specialty Hospital
  - Mountain View Hospital
  - Utah State Hospital

- Timpanogos Regional Hospital (evacuated all patients-80)
MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS IN THE HOSPITAL

- Scenario: The Great Utah Shakeout. There was a 7.0 magnitude earthquake along the Wasatch fault system causing damage to the region.
- Each hospital had scenarios that were developed by the hospital or the parent organization.
- TRH had a 2 day exercise
- UVRMC had a 3 day exercise
MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS IN THE HOSPITAL

Lessons learned from Blu-Med tent

VICTIM BEING LOGGED IN TO BLU-MED. CHILDREN IN A DISASTER PRESENTS EXTRA NEEDS.

MOM AND CHILDREN BEING TREATED: NEEDED MORE PEOPLE TO HELP
MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS IN THE HOSPITAL

- How does the MRC get into the Hospital:
  - The hospital must request the MRC asset
  - Arrangements are made for where/when the MRC would come to the hospital
  - MRC would be incorporated into the hospital system
MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS IN THE HOSPITAL

- What to expect:
  - Sign in with MRC coordinator for tracking purposes
  - Deploy to hospital with assignment from MRC.
  - Hospital
  - Show identification to security
    - Go to Manpower/Labor Pool
    - Receive their assignment from hospital
Recent Lessons Learned

- MRC must be willing to take direction from the hospital
- Should not act independently
- MRC may not perform their trained skill set (RN may become a runner)
MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS IN THE HOSPITAL

Conclusions:

1. Need to work with all community agencies
2. MRC can be great advantage to hospitals
3. Encourage hospital employees to become involved with MRC.