

**United States Department of** 

Health & Human Services

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response



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# NDMS: A 600 Second Update

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# ASPR Coordinates the Federal Public ASPR Health and Medical Response

- The National Response Framework (NRF) informs an effective federal response
- ASPR has the lead role for Emergency Support Function #8 – Public Health and Medical Response
- Role of OEM as the central point of coordination
  - Secretary's Operations Center (SOC)

- ESF-8 Responsibilities include: • Public Health Assessment
- Public Health Assessment
- Surveillance
- •Medical care and supplies
- Patient Evacuation
- •Patient and Animal Care
- •Drug Safety and Security
- •Blood and Related Products
- •Food Safety and Security
- •Agricultural Safety and Security
- •Behavioral Health
- Vector Control
- •Water and Wastewater
- Mass Fatality Support
- •Definitive Care



Supporting Response through the National Disaster Medical System



- Partnership between HHS, DHS, VA, and DoD
- Mission is two-fold:
  - 1. Support communities in the United States with post-disaster medical assistance as needed
  - 2. Backstop the DoD and VA medical systems in a mass casualty warfare scenario







- Three key functions:
  - 1. Medical Response (medical, veterinary, fatality management)
  - 2. Patient Evacuation by air from affected areas
  - 3. Delivery of Definitive Care through system of NDMS network hospital
- NDMS and US Public Health Service are two of the major deployable assets available to the HHS Secretary and ASPR



#### NDMS Response Teams: DMAT, DMORT, NVRT







# NDMS Personnel- Our Greatest Programmatic Resource



- Large, geographically distributed workforce of over 6000 personnel organized into 80+ response teams
  - Over 4000 credentialed professionals
  - Covered by Workers Compensation, Federal Tort Claims Act, and Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act
  - Enabling a prompt federal response
- Employees must have adequate worker protection, job protection, and training. Since 2014:
  - NDMS is working to legislate modernized coverage
  - Innovative training with our FEMA partners, over 1000 trained in 2014



### Full Context, Full Speed Training







### **Train as we Fight (Work)**







# Supporting the Response Teams: Recent Evolution



- Post-Sandy development of the Mobile Lifesaving Kit to complement the traditional NDMS caches
  - Forward deployed to support first response
- Realignment of the response teams into consistently typed assets
  - Three configurations of Health and Medical Task Forces
  - New design for the National Veterinary Response Teams
- Re-evaluation of the business of NDMS
  - Shortened response time and mechanisms to support this
  - Movement towards a more team-centric culture



# Thirty Years of Supporting the United States and Beyond



- Hundreds of responses, thousands of deployed personnel, tens of thousands of patient encounters
- Strong and improving relationships with our federal partners, including the Regional Emergency Coordinators and Hospital Preparedness Program
- Evolving to operate in a climate of limited resources, as with all Public Health programs across the country
- Future directions need to include more practical and purposeful interactions with regional and military partners



#### **Questions?**





