**Ventura County Medical Reserve Corps – 0959**

**Influenza Immunization Points of Distribution (FLU PODs) During the COVID-19 Pandemic Mission Set**

**Mission Set**: A scalable response and recovery capability for MRC units and volunteers that is organized, developed, trained, and exercised prior to an emergency or disaster for local, state, and/or regional deployment purposes.

**Introduction:** Ventura County is comprised of over 2,200 square miles, 10 incorporated cities, and a population of roughly 850,000. VCMRC currently has 88 active members under the direction of Ventura County Emergency Medical Services (VCEMS) to cover this Operational Area. VCMRC routinely deploys to assist Ventura County Public Health (VCPH), Ventura County Sheriffs’ Office of Emergency Services (VCS OES) and the local Chapter of American Red Cross during disaster responses and for regional training exercises. Since March 2020, our MRC has successfully deployed to support VCEMS’ COVID-19 in activities with these agencies. In addition, VCMRC routinely supports the VCPH Immunization Program (IP). Experience with these COVID-19 deployments and past FLU PODS will provide background for this mission.

The COVID-19 pandemic is anticipated to continue for the foreseeable future. Therefore, our Medical Reserve Corps (VCMRC Unit 0959) must adopt strategies for deployment adjusted to this reality. The **objective** of this response mission is to provide plans for safe immunization accessibility by incorporating COVID-19 safety guidelines into Ventura County (VC) FLU POD procedures. This plan will provide proof of principal and prepare our Unit for other deployments during the pandemic, including anticipated COVID-19 immunization PODs and wildfire or earthquake events.

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| **Mission Set Title: Influenza Immunization Points of Distribution (FLU PODs) During the COVID-19 Pandemic** |
| **Resource Description**: Conduct mass vaccination for seasonal influenza with necessary precautions to safeguard volunteers, staff, and the public during COVID-19 or other major pandemics. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission during deployments and FLU POD operations will require: **Social distancing**—utilizing substantially more space; **PPE**—increasing protective levels and amounts for use; and **New Site Locations**—moving activities outdoorswhich increases the need for personal protective outerwear for night and foul weather.  This Mission will apply current County and State COVID-19 guidelines and be conducted by VCMRC volunteers in conjunctions with stakeholders (VCEMS and VCPH IP). All participants (Clients and Staff) will be required to wear masks.   * **Staff**--will include Medical and Non-Medical Active VCMRC volunteers and Public Health IP nurses. All staff participating in medical procedures will be required to have current licenses for these activities. * **Operation Layout**—PODs will be conducted **outdoors under tents.** For efficiency, we will use an existing Drive-up COVID -19 Testing Site when it is **not in operation** for testing (site plus equipment is **provided by VCS OES**). * **Equipment and supplies** required will be **provided by VCEMS and VCPH Departments** (see **Basic Load List-Appendix 1**).   The 2020 COVID-19 Operational Readiness Award provided appropriate outerwear that will deliver increased visibility, protection against foul weather and blood-borne pathogens as well as prepare our Unit for other deployments during the pandemic. (**Budget**-**Appendix 2**). |

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| **Resource Components:** | | |
| **Personnel:** | **Type**  *Projection for POD with* ***Average Demand*** *(****˜500*** *Clients) with**Staffing for 4 active Lanes.* | **Licenses or Certifications Required?**  (yes/no) if yes, list requirement.  Only **Active VCMRC** volunteers can participate in deployments. |
| **11 Medical Professionals**   * 10 VCMRC and VCPH IP--Health Care Professionals to administer injections (Yes) * 1 MRC Member for safety officer/security: Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), or Nurse, or Medical Doctor (Yes)   **16 Support staff (Medical or Non-Medical)**   * 4 MRC Members for set up (including load Logistics) (No) * 4 MRC Members for check-in and COVID-19/ Health screening (No) * 2 MRC Members for on-going sanitation (No) * 2 MRC Members for check-out (No) * 4 MRC Members for traffic control and site logistics (including demobilization and site clean-up) (No)   At least 2 members of the staff must be fluent in Spanish.  **Personnel requirements** **will be scaled** **according to changes in anticipated demand**. | * MD, RN, PA, NP (credentialed to administer injections) * Licensed at National or local level or Certified EMT |

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| **Training Requirements:** | Minimal Training for **VCPH IP Nurses**: Per State licensing requirements. Training comparable to list below.  Minimal Training for **MRC Volunteers**:  ICS: 100, 200, 700, 800—Training online: <https://training.fema.gov>   * IS-100.C: Introduction to the Incident Command System * [IS-200.C: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response](https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-200.c) * [IS-700.B: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System](https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-700.b) * [IS-800.D: National Response Framework](https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-800.d)   VCMRC Unit 959 Website under training tab: [www.mrc959.org](http://www.mrc959.org)   * HIPPA Privacy Guidelines * Cultural Awareness * Blood Born Pathogens (CE) * Donning and Doffing PPE (also see: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/using-ppe.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/using-ppe.html)) * Staff Members will use [CDC/NIOSH Universal Precautions](https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/bbp/universal.html) * FLU POD training     Site specific **Just in Time Training** for **ALL STAFF** will be provided:   * + - Incident Action Plan (including ICS forms (202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 208, 214), Facility Maps, Weather Forecast, County Health Message     - Site orientation     - Set up and break down instructions per diagrams in **Appendix 3, 3a, 3b**     - Specialized training specific to role assignments including identification of person to whom they will report     - Vaccination preparation and administration instructions per VCPH IP     - POD Medical Plan (**Appendix 4**) using ICS Form 206 (See Forms)   **ICS Forms/use**: [FDA ICS Forms](https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/national-incident-management-system-implementation/fda-incident-command-system-ics-forms)  ICS 202- Incident Objectives [(ICS 202 - MS Word Version)](https://www.fda.gov/media/81019/download)  ICS 213RR- Resources Request [(ICS 213RR - MS Word Version)](https://www.fda.gov/media/81335/download)  ICS 214- Activity Log [(ICS 214 - MS Word Version)](https://www.fda.gov/media/81351/download)  ICS 206- Medical Plan [(ICS 206 - MS Word Version)](https://www.fda.gov/media/81115/download)  **Other Forms:**  Vaccine Information Statement— (paper and/or Electronic) Influenza (Flu) Vaccine (English and Spanish) (<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/flu.html>)  VCPH Form for Check in and Health Screening |
| **Equipment Required:** | For Details **See Appendix 1**—Load List   * Tents and other site equipment (SEE bottom of Load List **SITE SET UP**). * Misc. Office equipment-- Pens, pencils, clip boards, paperwork, Table covers, Radios, Signs, screening health forms, etc. * Misc. Disposable Medical supplies—alcohol wipes, band aids, needles, syringes, chucks, tissues, sharps containers, etc. * Supplies for Emergency Tent—Cot, blanket, AED, Blood Pressure Cuff, stethoscope, Emesis bags, Diphenhydramine HCL 25mg, Epinephrine - Auto Injector, Privacy Screens, etc. * Staff PPE--masks, gowns, face shields, gloves, hand sanitizer, sanitizer wipes, eye protection, etc. * Misc.—Water, trash cans, trash bags, coolers, caution tape, delineators, etc. * ICE, Vaccine, Vaccination trays, etc. |
| **Deployment Timeline:** | N+12 hrs. |
| **Requirements for Rotation of Personnel:** | Rotations would only be necessary in the unlikely event that the POD lasts >12 hrs. |
| **Pre-Planning Considerations:** | **Space Requirements:** Space requirements are much higher when COVID-19 precautions are implemented. A large outside open space such as community park, or parking lot with room for tents, parking, etc. is required. We have secured access to one of the **VC Sheriff Office of Emergency Services** Drive-Up COVID-19 testing sites.  The County COVID-19 Test site that has been secured for this Mission is already setup in a parking lot at a local community college. The lot has a separate entrance and exit and is set up for 6 lanes of testing occupying approximately 1.5 acers. A similar space of the lot adjacent to the test site remains available for parking and additional operating space. This site will **only** be utilized for FLU PODS **when** **COVID-19 testing is NOT occurring**. (**Layout Diagrams, Overview** with General Traffic Flow**-Appendix 3**).  **Support Requirements:**  (at existing site**-see Appendix 1-** bottom of Load List **SITE SET UP Provided by VCS OES):**   * Generator for Power * Large Storage Container for supplies on site * Security Fencing * Multiple 12’ X 12’ Tents with leg weights and/or tie downs (min 2/lane) * Multiple Tables (1- 2/ Tent) * 20 chairs * Portable Toilets (2 std, 1 handicap) * Hand Washing Stations * Outdoor lighting * Refrigeration (for food) * Delineators for traffic control * Internet Access (OPTIONAL) * Laptop/Tablet Computers (OPTIONAL) * Computer rolling stands (standing use height) (OPTIONAL) * Printers (OPTIONAL)   **Work Plan**  FLU PODs will use selected testing lanes for data collection and immunization (See **Drive-Up Work** **Area--Appendix 3a**). VCMRC volunteers and VCPH IP staff will provide Vaccine Information, Client Screening, and (if available) entry of Client information into the VC Public HealthIP Database. Health Care Professionals will administer vaccine to clients through vehicle windows.  If there is not appropriate access to all occupants of a vehicle, Clients will have to exit their vehicle. An alternate area will be made available to accommodate this situation.That is, the adjacent tent space from the unused lanes will be the **Walk-up Work Area** (**Appendix 3b)** with socially distanced seating at tables for Client injection. Short term parking for client vehicles will also be designated. When directed, Clients will move to the **Walk-Up Work Area** to receive their vaccine, and then return to their vehicle. This process will limit exposure to other Clients and staff.  All Clients will stop at Check-out for collection of paperwork and a health check before exiting the site. **(Appendix 3, 3a, 3b**)  A plan for site setup and restoring the site to the original COVID-19 Testing site use will be available and included in the Just-in-Time Training.  **Implementation and Evaluation** (12.5%)  To implement this **Mission Set**, we will incorporate the **Work Plan** into our FLU PODS as soon as possible. Since we have extensive FLU POD experience and recently participated in COVID-19 deployments we will be able to incorporate the principles of COVID -19 specific requirements and test the feasibility of our proposed plan.  An After Action Questionnaire and if available, an impartial observer will provide feedback of the planned deployment. |
| **Limiting Factors:** | Availability of influenza vaccine  Availability of consumable medical supplies especially PPEs  Availability of Staff credentialed to administer injections  Pre-approval of plan by Ventura County Emergency Medical Services, Public Health, and Office of Emergency Services |

**Resources:**

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