

COVID-19: Dissecting the Public Health Medical Countermeasures (MCMs) Response & Lessons Learned

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Disclosures

None for both speakers

Objectives

1. Review Medical Countermeasures (MCM) scaling efforts that were mobilized in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic
2. Dissect MCM Lessons Learned during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE)
3. Highlight Best Practices that can be utilized to prepare for future medical countermeasure responses to public health emergencies

Mobilizing Medical Countermeasures in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Defining Medical Countermeasures (MCM)



Definition: Medical countermeasure dispensing, and administration is the ability to provide medical countermeasures to targeted population(s) to prevent, mitigate, or treat the adverse health effects of a public health incident, according to public health guidelines.

Dispensing and administering medical countermeasures includes vaccines, antiviral drugs, antibiotics, and antitoxins plus medical supplies that can be used to diagnose, prevent, or treat diseases related to emerging threats, such as COVID-19.

Mobilizing MCM – Key Components at a Glance

Infrastructure
Expansion

Personnel –
Current/New

Provider
Education &
Resources

Care
Coordination

New State
Programs

Public Education
& Resources

Existing &
New Software
Systems

USG Vaccine
Procurement &
Distribution

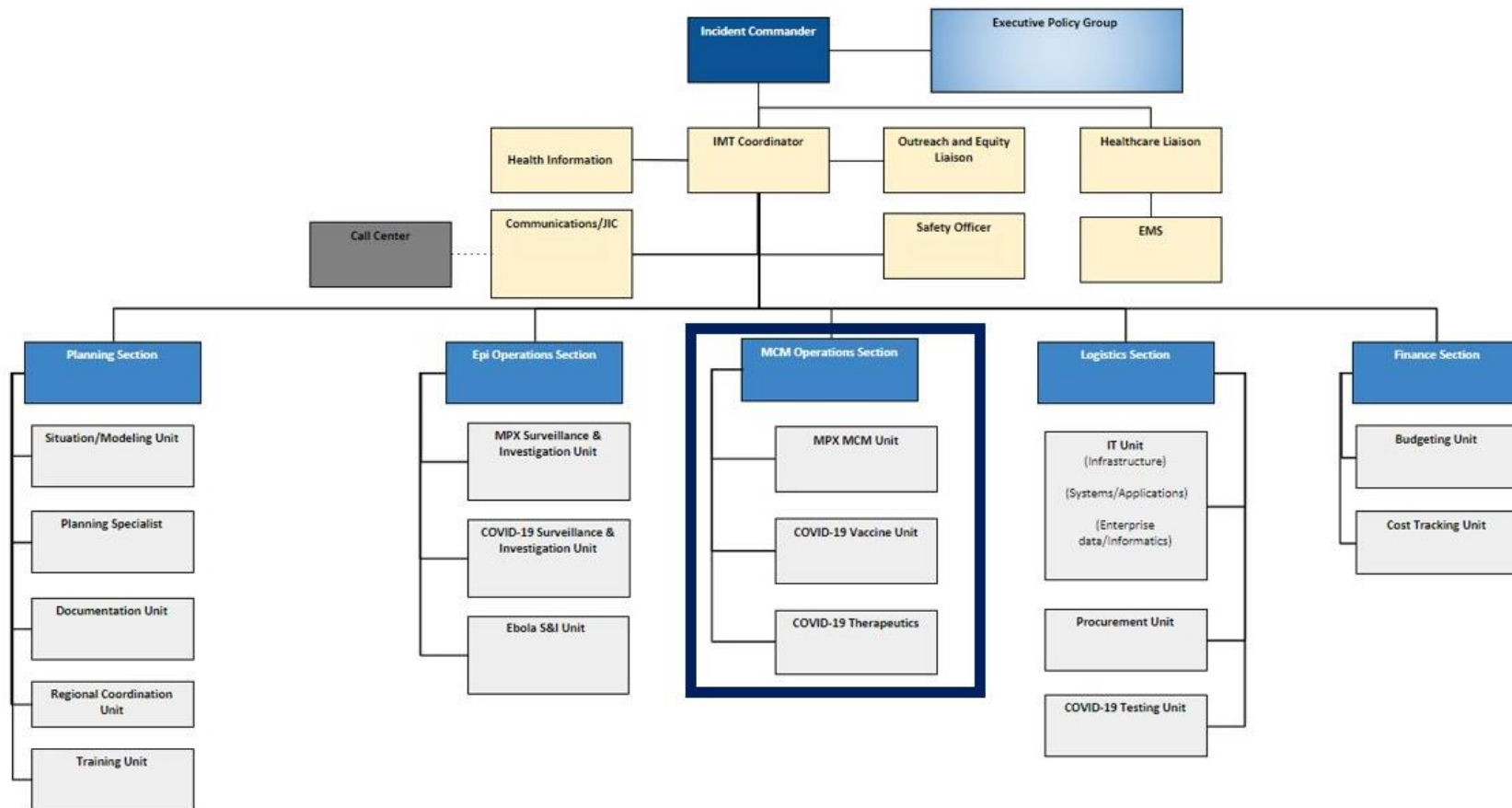
USG
Therapeutics
Procurement &
Distribution

Program &
Funding
Management

Standing Orders

New & Existing
Partnerships

Mobilizing MCM – Organizational Chart



Key Functions of the Medical Countermeasure Unit

Function 1: Determine medical countermeasure dispensing/administration strategies

Function 2: Receive medical countermeasures to be dispensed/administered

Function 3: Activate medical countermeasure dispensing/administration operations

Function 4: Dispense/administer medical countermeasures to targeted population(s)

Function 5: Report adverse events



Key Functions of Medical Countermeasure Activities

Function 1:

Determine medical
countermeasure
dispensing/
administration
strategies

Infrastructure
Expansion

Program &
Funding
Management

Existing &
New Software
Systems

Personnel –
Current/New

Key Functions of Medical Countermeasure Activities

Function 2:

Receive medical
countermeasures
to be dispensed/
administered

USG Vaccine
Procurement &
Distribution

USG
Therapeutics
Procurement &
Distribution

Key Functions of Medical Countermeasure Activities

Function 3:

Activate medical
countermeasure
dispensing/administration
operations

Care
Coordination

New & Existing
Partnerships

Key Functions of Medical Countermeasure Activities

Function 4:

Dispense/administer
medical
countermeasures to
targeted population(s)

New State
Programs

Public Education
& Resources

Key Functions of Medical Countermeasure Activities

Function 5:

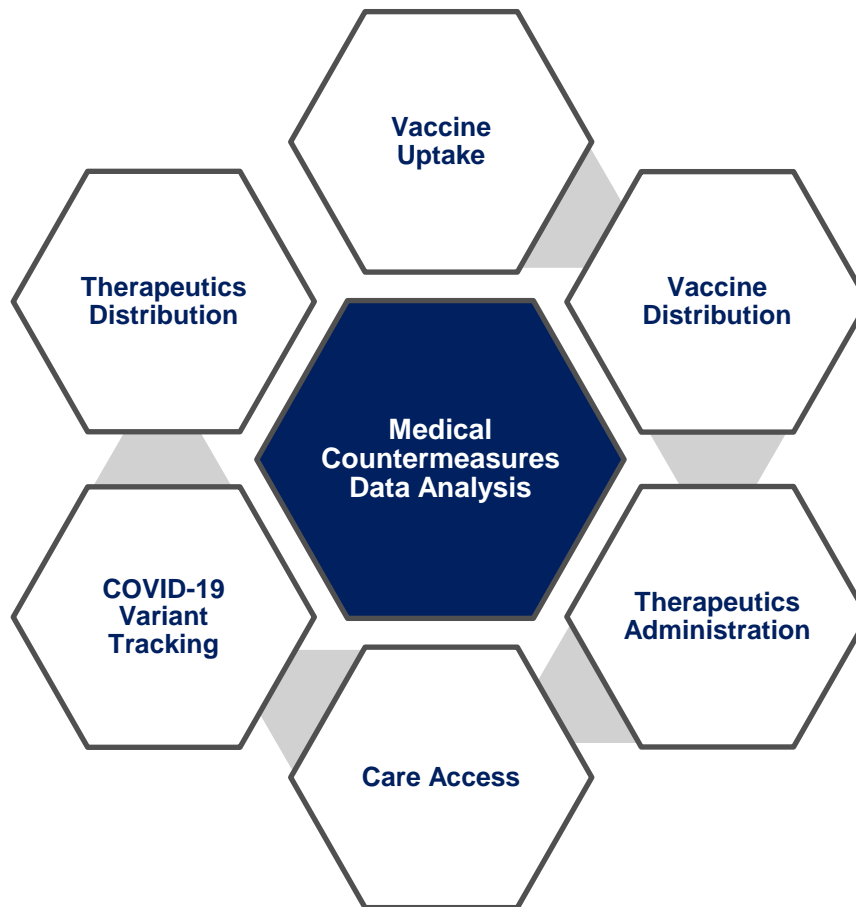
Report
adverse
events

Provider
Education &
Resources

Allocations &
Wastage

MCM – Data Tracking

**Data Analysis
played a key role
in medical
countermeasure
strategy &
operational
processes.**



MCM Response Scaling – Ramping to Meet the Need



Initial Response

Vaccine Unit &
Therapeutics Unit



Steady State

Vaccine & Therapeutics
Combined Unit



Ramping Down

Stand Down MCM Unit
+ Maintain Core Staff



Mobilizing Medical Countermeasures: Lessons Learned during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Top Lessons Learned

COVID-19 was a fast-moving, complex pandemic that presented many different challenges.

Personnel	Partnerships	Mobile Units	Novel Programs
Medical Countermeasures Dispensing & Administration	Redistribution	Software Capabilities	Data Sharing
Needs Assessment	Procurement & Distribution	Funding	Electronic Health Record (EHR)

Medical Countermeasures: Best Practices for future Public Health Emergency

MCM Best Practices: Preparedness, Response & Recovery

- Workforce Capacity
- Systems
- Partnerships
- Infrastructure + Novel Programs
- Trusted Resource
- LHD Coordination
- Messaging and Communication
- Documentation and Plans
- Ongoing Evaluation and Assessment



Overall Key Messages for Future MCM Responses



1. Retain trained and knowledgeable staff will make ramping up MCM responses more efficient and timelier.
2. Ensuring software systems are designed for dispensing and administration of medical countermeasures will assist VDH staff and end-users like LHDs are able to quickly ramp up procurement and distribution processes
3. Maintaining partnerships with key internal and external stakeholders like LHDs, non-profit organizations, hospitals/health systems, schools, retail pharmacies, community-based organizations, long-term care facilities, and correctional facilities will help with efficient coordination of care across the Commonwealth

Q&A Session

Thank You for Attending our Session!

For Additional Questions:

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