The Office of Public Health Preparedness (OPHP) works with the Michigan wing of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) to provide transportation of medical countermeasures during emergencies. The CAP has a fleet of aircraft strategically placed across the State of Michigan and can reach the most remote areas of Michigan more quickly than ground transport.

OPHP activated their plans during the nationwide response to the 2009 Novel H1N1 Influenza A outbreak. Michigan received multiple shipments of medical supplies from the CDC and rapidly redistributed them to local health departments and regional medical coordination centers across the State of Michigan.
What is the SNS?
The Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) is a federal program that distributes large quantities of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies during an emergency. It is maintained by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). When state and local supplies are exhausted, or expected to be exhausted due to a public health emergency, the Governor of the State of Michigan can request additional resources from the SNS.

What is MISNS?
The Michigan Strategic National Stockpile (MISNS) program is managed by the State of Michigan. MISNS activities are driven by a detailed plan that describes Michigan’s responsibilities to request, receive, manage, distribute, and dispense medications received from the CDC. Staff also provide assistance to local and regional partners for planning and implementing their SNS plans.

What is the RSS?
The Receipt, Stage, and Store (RSS) is a warehouse that is used to receive and manage SNS shipments of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies delivered to Michigan.

The warehouse is operated by local staff and volunteers who respond during an emergency. Michigan annually exercises the activation of the RSS facility to ensure that it is prepared.

During an emergency, the SNS is transported by truck or plane to undisclosed locations in Michigan. RSS staff are then assembled to receive and divide the assets before being distributed to local sites. RSS volunteers serve as a critical resource necessary for this process.

The local health departments and treatment centers (hospitals) throughout Michigan are prepared to receive SNS assets from the RSS to ensure that the resources reach those in the community that need them.

How Are the SNS and RSS Activities Coordinated?
RSS activities are closely supported and coordinated through the Community Health Emergency Coordination Center (CHECC) in collaboration with the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). The MISNS State Coordinator works in the CHECC to manage the MISNS response and support the RSS activities.

Why is this important for you?
- The MISNS program provides rapid distribution of emergency medical supplies to those in need during an emergency.
- Medication is available to the community at no cost.
- There are enough supplies in the SNS to protect multiple large cities at the same time.
- Find out how to get medication during an emergency, by tuning in to your local TV, radio station or check your local health department’s web site.

We need your help
Volunteers are an important and scarce resource during an emergency. To help, become a volunteer by registering on the MI-Volunteer Registry at: https://mivolunteerregistry.org