



SEPTEMBER 5, 2005

HEALTH ALERT NETWORK
HEALTH ALERT

**Louisiana EMAC (Emergency Management Assistance Compact)
request for Licensed Pharmacists**

As a result of the devastation that has occurred in the Gulf States due to Hurricane Katrina, the Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (LA OHSEP), Operations, has issued an EMAC notice requesting six (6) licensed pharmacists to support local pharmacies in various locations throughout Jefferson Parish, LA. All states that are able to provide assistance are encouraged to respond.

The North Dakota Department of Health's Emergency Preparedness and Response Section will be coordinating this effort on behalf of the Public Health and Medical facilities contacted in North Dakota.

If you are a licensed pharmacist and would be willing to donate your time to the recovery effort in Louisiana, please go to www.ndhan.gov and click the link to register with the North Dakota Public Health Emergency Volunteer Reserve (PHEVR).

We will contact you with further instructions if licensed pharmacists from North Dakota will be activated and deployed. Deployment has typically lasted 16 days which includes 2 days of travel.

Please contact Tim Wiedrich, Section Chief, Emergency Preparedness and Response, North Dakota Department of Health at (701) 220-3945 or twiedric@state.nd.us if you have any questions.

Categories of Health Alert messages:

- *Health Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.*
- *Health Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.*
- *Health Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.*
- *Health Information provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.*

This message is being sent to local public health units, clinics, hospitals, physicians, tribal health, North Dakota Nurses Association, North Dakota Long Term Care Association, North Dakota Healthcare Association, North Dakota Medical Association, and hospital public information officers.