



Use of Volunteers in Nuclear/Radiological Event



American Red Cross

We Can't Do This Alone

- Catastrophic Event
- Outside the event Healthcare Professionals may or may not want to assist
- Implications of cross border response



American Red Cross

Optimal State of Readiness

- Every healthcare professional in the US would understand the basics of radiation physics and how to protect themselves from exposure or contamination.
- Healthcare professionals interested in responding to disaster would pre-affiliate themselves with a recognized disaster relief organization.
- Healthcare professional curricula would include trainings in disaster response and recovery for CBRNE event. Personal Preparedness including family preparedness, ethical frameworks for response actions, willingness to respond determination would be part of education on employee expectations.



American Red Cross

Capabilities to reach the Optimal State of Readiness

- Changes in healthcare professional curricula
- Priority to provide CBRNE education to all staff in the 17 CMS covered entities
- Portability of healthcare licensure in times of disaster
- Incentives for healthcare systems to educate and allow staff to volunteer
- Planning to incorporate international healthcare responders



American Red Cross

Capabilities to Respond and Recover

- 2.9 million nurses with 61% working in hospitals (2017)
- Average age is 50 yrs. Old
- Allied Health Professionals



American Red Cross

Challenges

- Use of volunteers in above background radiation areas
- Mobilization/screening of healthcare volunteers from outside the event area
- Care of mobilized volunteers
- Palliative care impacts on volunteers
- Use of healthcare volunteers in related response impacts: i.e. orphan care

