

## About ASPR

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) leads the nation's medical and public health preparedness for, response to, and recovery from disasters and public health emergencies. Threats facing the U.S. are increasingly complex and dangerous. Our nation faces an array of natural, technological, and human-caused threats and hazards, including:

- hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, and other natural disasters,
- emerging infectious diseases, such as Zika, Ebola, or SARS-CoV2,
- chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats, and
- cyber security threats to our healthcare systems and infrastructure.

ASPR partners with hospitals; healthcare coalitions; biotech firms; community members; and state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments across the country to improve readiness and response capabilities.

In this lead role, ASPR serves as the principal advisor to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on matters related to federal public health and medical preparedness and response. This includes coordinating policy initiatives – such as providing strategic direction on securing the nation's pharmaceutical supply chain – and overseeing the **Secretary's Operation Center**.



ASPR's mission is to save lives and protect the nation from health security threats.

In addition to important policy-related responsibilities, ASPR:

- coordinates federal public health and medical response to emergent threats and all-hazards incidents.
- advances research and development of medical countermeasures to help respond to these health security threats.

ASPR utilizes its **National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)** to support the federal public health and medical response to emergencies. The mission of NDMS is two-fold:

- to supplement state and local medical resources during public health emergencies or disasters (at the request of the state)
- to provide backup medical support to the Department of Defense and Veteran's Administration during an overseas conflict.

ASPR's **Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA)** partners with both public and private entities to accelerate the research and development of medical countermeasures – lifesaving medicines, vaccines, diagnostic tools, and non-pharmaceutical products – to detect, prevent, mitigate and recover from threats to our national health security.








As of today, BARDA partnerships have led to 61 FDA approvals, licensures, and clearances in the last 14 years. This includes 20 vaccines, 20 drugs, and 22 diagnostics across the threat space.

ASPR manages the **Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)**, the world's largest stockpile of life-saving pharmaceuticals and medical supplies for use in a public health emergency. The role of the SNS is to supplement state and local supplies during a public health emergency.

ASPR also funds the **Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)**, the only source of federal funding to improve



the capacity of the health care system to plan for and respond to large-scale emergencies and disasters. ASPR recently received funding through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to strengthen and advance the **Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)** program, a national network of over 200,000 volunteers organized into local community-based units committed to building community preparedness and resilience.

ASPR by the Numbers		COVID-19 Pandemic
<p>Number of Employees</p>  <p><b>1,000</b> Federal FTE Employees</p>	<p>FY20 Disaster Response</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>9</b> Hurricanes</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>1</b> Earthquake</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>2</b> Wildfires</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>7</b> National Special Security Events</p> </div> </div>	<p><b>91</b> COVID-19 medical countermeasures supported by BARDA</p> <p><b>17K+</b> tons of cargo shipped by SNS to support U.S. repatriation efforts and state PPE needs</p> <p><b>26</b> Emergency Use Authorizations issued for BARDA-supported SARS CoV-2 tests</p> <p><b>133.5k</b> NDMS total administered COVID-19 vaccinations</p>
<p>FY21 Budget</p>  <p><b>\$2.77B</b> Enacted Budget</p>	<p>Medical Countermeasures</p>  <p><b>61</b> FDA Approvals, Licensures, or Clearances for BARDA-supported medical countermeasures</p>	<p>Oct 1, 2021</p>