The Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service

The Surgeon General leads the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service

19th Surgeon General
Vice Admiral (VADM)
Vivek H. Murthy, MD, MBA

Deputy Surgeon General
Rear Admiral (RADM)
Sylvia Trent-Adams, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N
The Mission of the Commissioned Corps

Protecting, promoting, and advancing the health and safety of the nation
Commissioned Corps Officers

- Over 6,700 officers in 800 locations, worldwide
- 11 Professional Categories
  - Medical
  - Dental
  - Nursing
  - Pharmacy
  - Scientist
  - Health Services
  - Engineer
  - Therapist
  - Veterinarian
  - Dietitian
  - Environmental Health
Federal Agencies

(Not all agencies and programs are represented)
The USPHS Commissioned Corps

As America’s uniformed service of public health professionals, the Commissioned Corps achieves this mission through:

- Leadership and excellence in public health practice
- The advancement of public health science
- Rapid and effective response to public health needs
From Ellis Island…
…To tribal lands
Across America…
…Around the World
Statutory Authority 42 USC 204

- Corps shall be used “for deployment to respond to public health emergencies, both foreign and domestic…”

- The Secretary shall “ensure that members of the Corps are trained, equipped and otherwise prepared to fulfill public health and emergency response roles…”
Community Health and Service Missions (CHASM)

**Public Health Initiatives**
- Food and Water System Assessments
- Epidemiologic/Public Health Consultation
- Vector Control
- Water/Sewer System Assessments
- Preventive Medicine Education
- Preparedness Planning
- Immunizations

**Infrastructure Support**
- Basic Biomedical Repair and Training
- Environmental Engineering

**Direct Medical Care**
- Primary / Consultative Care
- General / Specialty Surgical Care

**Medical/Nursing Education**
- Basic Medical/Surgical Nursing
- Skill Training
- BLS, ACLS

**Pharmacy Services**
- Dispensing/Inventory Control
Surgeon General’s Priorities

Tobacco Free Living

Mental and Emotional Well-Being

Healthy Eating

Active Living
The Surgeon General’s Priorities

Tobacco and Drug Free Living

• Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States
  – Associated with: heart disease, cancer, lung disease, stroke, periodontal disease

• Drug abuse and excessive alcohol use
  – Leads to: motor vehicle crashes, violence, unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, injuries, cancer, heart disease
Office of the Surgeon General

50th Anniversary
Surgeon General’s
Report on Smoking and Health

Surgeon General’s Report on Smoking & Health
1964 - 2014
50th Anniversary
The Surgeon General’s Priorities

Mental Health and Emotional Well-Being

• Mental illness is responsible for more disability than any other group of illnesses.
  – Many may not feel comfortable talking about or getting effective treatment

• Emotional well being:
  – spotlights ways to overcome barriers to treatment, realize full potential, cope with life stressors, work productively, meaningful contributions to communities
The Surgeon General’s Priorities

2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention
Goals and Objectives for Action
The Surgeon General’s Priorities

Healthy Eating

• The Surgeon General is committed to providing evidence-based information on healthy diets and health choices are accessible, affordable and desirable

• Proper nutrition, healthy foods, portion control reduce risk:
  – of heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, osteoporosis, several types of cancer
STEP IT UP! Surgeon General’s Call to Action to Promote Walking and Walkable Communities
The Surgeon General’s Priorities

• Extensive stakeholder and public input

• Aligns and focuses prevention and health promotion efforts with existing evidence base

• Supports national plans
National Prevention Council Commitments

- Identifying Opportunities to Consider Prevention and Health
- Increasing Tobacco Free Environments
- Increasing Access to Healthy, Affordable Food
STRICTIC DIRECTIONS AND PRIORITIES

• Tobacco Free Living
• Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use
• Healthy Eating
• Active Living
• Injury and Violence Free Living
• Reproductive and Sexual Health
• Mental and Emotional Well-being
Values and Opportunities

National Strategic Priorities

Prevention and Health

Global Health

Health Security / Surge Capacity
The Office of the Surgeon General

The Surgeon General is the “Nation’s Doctor”
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