

Chief Pharmacy Officer Report  
January 8, 2009

1. New Year

I hope all PHS pharmacists and technicians and their families had an enjoyable holiday season.

2. Potential Nominee for Surgeon General

By now, most of you have heard news reports that the Obama transition team has approached Dr. Sanjay Gupta, CNN's chief medical correspondent, about becoming U.S. Surgeon General. Dr. Gupta is a member of the staff and faculty of the Department of Neurosurgery at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia. He regularly performs surgery at Emory University Hospital and at Grady Memorial Hospital, where he serves as associate chief of neurosurgery. He was a White House fellow in 1997 and a special adviser to then-first lady Hillary Clinton. A formal announcement for the Surgeon General nomination is expected out soon.

3. Basic Readiness

The Office of Force Readiness and Deployment (OFRD) will officially report on readiness on January 12, 2009. As of December 19, 2008 the pharmacy category was at 90.7% readiness. Please go to the OFRD website and check your readiness status.

4. PHS Fitness-Improvement Training Program

In December 2008, a new panel report was approved by the Assistant Secretary for Health. The report represents the work of the PHS Fitness-Improvement Training (PHS-FIT) Program Panel. The goal was to develop recommendations for a program which might assist officers in meeting fitness and weight goals. It was further hoped that, in addition to helping meet readiness standards, the information would assist Corps officers to more effectively serve as "positive examples and ambassadors of health to the Nation." The PHS-FIT panel report will be made available on the Commissioned Corps Management Information System Web site (<http://dcp.psc.gov>). Please watch for it.

5. Junior Commissioned Officer Student Training and Extern Program (JRCOSTEP)

With the start of the new calendar year, it is time to think about summer JRCOSTEPs. During summer 2008, approximately 130 pharmacy students applied for the JRCOSTEP. PHS programs were able to hire 36 of these pharmacy students (26 IHS, 6 FDA, 2 OS, 1 DHS, 1 NIH). As of January 7, 2009, there are 59 pharmacy Junior COSTEP applicants. If you are interested and have the funding for a JRCOSTEP for summer 2009, please contact Mr. Steve Hand at phone (240) 453-6072 or by email at [steven.hand@hhs.gov](mailto:steven.hand@hhs.gov) for information on the selection process.

## 6. PHS Pharmacist Detailed to Pharmacoeconomic Center

LT Marisol Martinez is the first PHS pharmacist to be detailed to serve at the Department of Defense Pharmacoeconomic Center in Fort Sam Houston, TX. LT Marisol is a 2005 graduate from the University of Houston. She joined the PHS in October 2005 serving as a staff pharmacist then as a senior pharmacist at the Indian Health Service Hospital in Santa Fe, NM. Congratulations LT Martinez!

## 7. New Pharmacy Officers

Welcome to all the new PHS Commissioned Corps pharmacists who have been called to active duty (CAD) or recalled to active duty over the last month:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>CAD Date</u>
LT Reasol S. Agustin	IHS	Sr. Pharmacist	Tuba City	AZ	01/05/2009
LT Samuel M. Skariah	FDA	Sr. Reg. Rev Officer	Silver Spring	MD	01/05/2009
CAPT Paul V. McSherry	IHS	Sr. Mil. Pers. Spec.	Alameda	NM	01/01/2009
LCDR Yoon J. Kong	FDA	Drug Info. Officer	Silver Spring	MD	12/28/2008
LT Melissa L. Madrona	IHS	Sr. Pharmacist	Whiteriver	AZ	12/22/2008
ENS Saomony Cheam	FDA	Jr. COSTEP	Rockville	MD	12/18/2008
LT Bic Nguyen	IHS	Staff Pharmacist	Zuni	NM	12/08/2008
LCDR Patricia O. Earle	BOP	Chief Pharmacist	Pine Knot	KY	12/07/2008

## 8. Officer Basic Course

Congratulations to the 11 pharmacist officers completing Officer Basic Course (09-04) on January 16, 2009.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>CAD Date</u>
LT Enoch K. Boateng	BOP	Sr. Pharmacist	Fort Dix	NJ	07/06/2008
LT Roberto M. Gomez	BOP	Sr. Pharmacist	Fort Worth	TX	09/01/2008
LT Lisa S. Lee	BOP	Chief Pharmacist	Talladega	AL	09/19/2008
LT Elizabeth A. Hoang	DHS/DIHS	Sr. Pharmacist	Taylor	TX	08/14/2008
LT Jason A. Foote	IHS	Staff Pharmacist	Tuba City	AZ	07/15/2008
LT Andrea L. Jackson	IHS	Staff Pharmacist	El Reno	OK	07/23/2008
LT Lisa M. Leombruni	IHS	Staff Pharmacist	Pinon	AZ	07/13/2008
LT Brian P. Oland	IHS	Staff Pharmacist	Fort Washakie	WY	07/01/2008
LT Matthew T. Washburn	IHS	Sr. Pharmacist	White River	AZ	07/22/2008
LT Marta A. Wojas	IHS	Staff Pharmacist	Warm Springs	OR	07/23/2008
LCDR Ursula M. Webb	IHS	Staff Pharmacist	Crownpoint	NM	07/23/2008