



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR RESPIRATORY CARE  
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The American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) is aware that many Federal and state agencies are considering acquisitions of ventilators to create or supplement their ventilator reserves to prepare for a possible flu pandemic or other mass casualty event. The need for further acquisitions is an acknowledgement that if such events were to occur, the result could be thousands of patients facing acute respiratory failure (ARF) requiring mechanical ventilation.

Since we understand that these ventilator reserves must be multi-purpose – capable of serving in the event of all kinds of natural or mass casualty incidents – the AARC has developed a Guidance Document to address these demands. This document was prepared by the leading respiratory professionals in the country, and was reviewed by other leading experts to verify its reliability and validity.

The AARC is aware that many state health departments have been contacted, or soon will be, by our state-affiliated Societies. The Respiratory Therapy State Societies are willing to work with state and local agencies to help implement a plan for acquiring additional resources, equipment, supplies and personnel to assure that the ventilator reserves will meet the needs of your communities.

The AARC stands ready to assist you as well. If you have any questions about the document, please contact the AARC Executive Director, Sam Giordano, RRT ([giordano@aarc.org](mailto:giordano@aarc.org)).

For your convenience we have posted the Guidance Document on our website at [www.aarc.org](http://www.aarc.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MWR', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael W. Runge, RRT  
AARC President