

**Massachusetts Society
for Medical Research, Inc.**

**Member
Services**



MSMR...

*Understanding is our biggest
breakthrough.*

Member Services

ALERTS

We keep members apprised of important issues through e-mail alerts. We tailor our member alerts on a customized basis when requested by member institutions. Alert categories include:

- Proposed state laws and regulations that affect animal research institutions, science education, and animal welfare.
- Anti-science or extremist activities
- Noteworthy events for the research community

ALLIANCES

On behalf of its member institutions, MSMR maintains contact and collaborative relationships with state and national organizations representing the biomedical research community. We exchange materials and expertise, present professional training and development, and leverage one another's special skills in support of biomedical research nationwide. One of our most important relationships is with States United for Biomedical Research (SUBR), an umbrella comprising organizations similar to MSMR in 14 states and regions of the United States. To find out more about SUBR, go to www.statesforbiomed.org.



CRISIS MANAGEMENT & INTERVENTION

The MSMR works with all levels of personnel at its member institutions to develop internal crisis management strategies related to anti-science activity and specific issues related to the conduct of biological research.

The Society can provide guidance in handling crisis situations experienced by its member institutions and in diffusing sensitive situations related to animal research.

We work with member institutions, behind the scenes and in front of the cameras to develop appropriate responses.



EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Today, only a small percentage of the American public can meet a minimal test of scientific literacy. Without a basic understanding of scientific processes and concepts, public support for biomedical research and biotechnology could decline.

MSMR has developed a broad array of educational outreach programs and materials used by our members. Through them, we service teachers, students, the general public, the media, policymakers, and in-house personnel at our member institutions throughout the Northeast region and beyond. In addition, we make our programs and materials available to collaborating organizations nationwide.

For a complete description of these educational outreach resources, which are available to all MSMR members, click on [References and Resources](#).

IACUC PLACEMENT PROGRAM

The MSMR works with our member organizations to identify individuals to serve as independent (sometimes called *non-affiliated or community*) members of their Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees (IACUCs).



IN-HOUSE EDUCATION & TRAINING

The MSMR organizes and participates in team-building sessions at its member institutions to help in-house personnel better understand the process of biological research and testing, the role that animals play in that process, and how that relates to research ongoing at their institutions. Other employee orientation and training sessions available include an overview of animal care requirements mandated by state and federal law and regulatory agencies; regulatory and legislative issues; and more. Customized training is also available.

LEGISLATION

The MSMR tracks and acts on legislation that would affect the conduct of biomedical research, science education and testing in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. On a yearly basis, we track between 40 and 60 pieces of legislation. The Society has developed proactive strategies in the face of legislation that might restrict biomedical and biological research and testing in the Commonwealth. The Society also follows a number of specific legislative issues across the Northeastern states.

MSMR also actively proposes or promotes legislation that will support biomedical research in Massachusetts and genuine animal welfare. In a recent session we supported an update to the animal cruelty laws proposed by the MSPCA, stem cell research, and a day honoring biomedical research in Massachusetts.



MEDIA RELATIONS & TRAINING

Since its inception, the MSMR has worked with the media to educate the public about the benefits of biological research and biotechnology to human, animal, and environmental health, and to advance the point of view of the research community.

The Society monitors print and electronic media on all relevant issues. We offer opinion pieces to newspapers across the Northeast. We work with journalists on an ongoing basis to present a rational, thoughtful picture of biological research on articles related to current issues and events.

We also sponsor issues training for the public information officers at our member institutions and media training for researchers and management at our member institutions.

MSMR e-News

The MSMR publishes ***MSMR e-News***, a monthly electronic newsletter for our members on topics of interest to the biomedical research, testing, and biotechnology community.

The *MSMR e-News* includes science and regulatory updates and alerts, events schedules, international news, member news, and a host of other features.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

The MSMR sponsors quarterly workshops and conferences on new and emerging issues for its members and others. Recent topics have included: institutional disaster planning; how to communicate with elected officials; institutional animal care and use committee topics; institutional crisis & security issues; and personal safety for biomedical professionals.

SPEAKERS BUREAU & TRAINING

Now in its twelfth year, the MSMR Speakers Bureau brings biomedical professionals to classrooms, communities, and legislative officials to discuss the role of animals in science and other issues affecting the research community. MSMR works carefully to match the speaker, the audience and the venue.

From its inception, the MSMR Speakers Bureau has served as a model of what member involvement can accomplish. Scientists, health care professionals, beneficiaries of biomedical research, and others, deliver powerful, professional, and personal messages to audiences such as students and teachers; community organizations; professional societies; in-house personnel; and more.



TRAINING PARTNERS®

The MSMR *Training Partners*® program is a unique training initiative designed to help our members be proactive in taking the pro-science, pro-research message to the public, their colleagues and friends. Training components include *Effective Communication* (enhancing personal communication skills for internal communication and for public outreach); *Lesson Planning* (for public and classroom outreach); *Team-building 101*; and *Conflict Resolution*. *Training Partners*® is customized to the needs of the audience at hand. The Society conducts sessions both in-house and in large groups

