

WHAT IF...



NO WATER

Most patients think they are prepared for an emergency, but few actually are.

Emergency Checklist

1. Contact your facility to find out the plan for treatment. Dialysis requires a clean source of water.
2. Store at least 1 gallon of water per person per day for a minimum 3-day supply. This means a family of 4 needs 12 gallons.
3. Be sure to account for pets; dogs and cats typically need 1 gallon each per day.
4. Store water in a cool, dark place in your home.
5. Replace water every six months and be sure to check expiration dates on store-bought water.
6. Listen for announcements from local officials to find out what to do. They will tell you if there are germs and/or chemicals in the water.
7. If you hear reports of broken water or sewage lines, you'll need to shut off water to your house to avoid letting contaminated water enter your home.
8. Boil water if instructed. Boil for at least one minute (start counting when the water comes to a constant boil). Let the water cool before drinking. Boiling kills germs in the water.



THE FACTS

- For the health and safety of dialysis patients, it is important that water used to do dialysis is safe and clean. The Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI) makes sure equipment used to treat and store water in a dialysis facility meets standards.¹
- Following a disaster clean drinking water may not be available. Your regular water source could be cut-off or contaminated. Prepare yourself by building a supply of water that will meet your family's needs during an emergency.²

References

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Water Use in Hemodialysis | Other Uses of Water | Healthy Water | CDC. Cdc.gov. <https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/other/medical/hemodialysis.html>. Published 2016. Accessed June 29, 2020.
2. Department of Homeland Security. Water. water.gov. <https://www.ready.gov/water>. Published 2020. Accessed June 29, 2020.

This material was prepared by Quality Insights Renal Network 5 under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The contents do not necessarily reflect CMS policy. Publication No. ESRD5-073120b



Quality
Insights

Renal Network 5