Surviving a Disaster—How To Get Ready



Keep a week's supply of medicine

- Refill your medicine a few days early each month, and soon you'll have extra supply
- Store in a waterproof container
- Ask your doctor about medications that remove potassium if you can't dialyze
- Keep extra medicine at work or anywhere you spend time away from home
- If you are diabetic:
 - Keep a week's supply of insulin, lancets, syringes, wipes, test strips and spare batteries for your glucose monitor
 - Insulin should be refrigerated, but can be stored at room temp for up to 1 month
 - Keep sugar, honey, or cake icing for low blood sugar

Make sure we can reach you

- Update emergency contact information with your dialysis center
- Provide at least 3 ways to reach you: home, work, cell numbers, relatives, etc.

Plan for back-up transportation

- You may need another way to get to dialysis
- Ask your social worker for transportation resources
- Talk to friends and relatives who could help

Emergency kit—what to have at home

- Emergency diet food supply for 3-5 days
- Paper/plastic plates, cups, bowls, utensils, can opener (non-electric)
- Paper towels and hand sanitizer
- Flashlight and battery-operated radio plus extra batteries for both
- Candles/matches in waterproof container
- First aid kit, sharp knife and scissors
- Moist towelettes wipes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Gallon jugs of distilled water (one gallon per day per family member)
- Bleach (plain unscented) and 1/4 teaspoon for purifying water (use 1/4 teaspoon of bleach per 1.5 gallons of water)

Emergency kidney diet food supply

- Very restricted diet to help you stay alive without dialysis for a few days, and does not require refrigeration or cooking
- Food should be very low in potassium, protein, salt and fluids to keep waste and water from building up in your body
- Ask your dietitian to help you plan

Get an emergency medical bracelet

- Be sure it states you're on dialysis and if you are diabetic
- Order forms available at most pharmacies

