



Conditions for Coverage Published April 15, 2008 Emergency Preparedness Rules and Regulations

Emergency Preparedness [494.60 (d)]

The dialysis facility must implement policies and procedures to manage medical and nonmedical emergencies that are likely to threaten the health or safety of the patients, the staff, or the public. These emergencies include, but are not limited to; fire, equipment or power failure, care related emergencies, water supply interruption, and natural disasters likely to occur in a facilities area.

Emergency Preparedness for Staff and Patient Training [494.60 (d)(1)(2)]

The dialysis facility must provide appropriate training and orientation in emergency preparedness to all staff. Staff training must be provided and evaluated at least annually and include the following:

- Ensuring that the staff can demonstrate a knowledge of emergency procedures, including informing patients of:
 1. What to do
 2. Where to go, including instructions for occasions when the geographic area of a dialysis facility must be evacuated
 3. Whom to contact if an emergency occurs while the patient is not in the dialysis facility. This contact information must include an alternate emergency phone number for the facility during instances when the dialysis facility is unable to receive phone calls due to an emergency situation, unless the facility has the ability to forward calls to a working number under such emergency conditions
 4. How to perform the “quick disconnect/clamp & cut” procedure from the dialysis machine if an emergency occur
- Ensuring that at a minimum, patient care staff maintains current CPR certification.
- Ensuring that nursing staffs are properly trained in the use of emergency equipment and emergency drugs

Emergency Equipment [494.60 (d)(3)]

Emergency equipment includes, but is not limited to oxygen, airway suction, defibrillator (AED), artificial resuscitator, and emergency drugs, must be on the premises at all times and immediately available.

Emergency Plans [494.60 (d)(4)]

The facility must:

- Have a plan to obtain emergency assistance when needed
- Evaluate at least annually the effectiveness of emergency and disaster plans and update them as necessary
- Contact it’s local disaster management agency at least annually to ensure that such an agency is aware of the dialysis facility needs in the event of an emergency