



Florida Kidney Disaster Coalition

Conditions for Coverage: Contacting Your Local Emergency Management Agency

FEBRUARY 8, 2010

One condition requires that the dialysis facility make annual contact with the local emergency management agency.

According to the Interpretive Guidelines:

- The facility must contact and develop a communicative relationship with the local disaster management agency. This relationship will help expedite restoration of interrupted services due to an emergency or disaster. There should be some documented evidence of this contact.
- In order to ensure life saving dialysis services will be available in the event of an emergency or disaster, facilities should collaborate with their ESRD Network, suppliers, utility service providers, and their State agencies for survey and for emergency preparedness as well as with other dialysis facilities. Resources available from the Kidney Community Emergency Response (KCER) Coalition can assist facilities in meeting this requirement.

Each county emergency management policies and capabilities are different. Some emergency management agencies are organized under the police or fire department. Other jurisdictions have a free-standing agency. Remember that local emergency management agencies are not required to provide financial support to dialysis facilities, and may be unable to provide goods and services. It is important to know how emergency management works in your community to better understand what resources will be available to you after a disaster.

This regulation is intended to encourage dialysis facilities to:

- collaborate on a local level with important stakeholders,
- practice contacting the appropriate disaster response agencies,
- build a working relationship with community partners,
- understand how emergency management works in your county,
- learn what disaster resources are available in your area, and
- provide education to emergency planners about the importance of planning for dialysis facilities.

VISION STATEMENT

The Florida Kidney Disaster Coalition is the model disaster planning and readiness organization for kidney patients by collaborating with community partners to ensure timely access to quality care.

MISSION STATEMENT

To establish and facilitate partnerships that provide a framework for disaster readiness and continuity of care for the renal community.