

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- ◆ Contact your local dialysis units to discuss how you and your organization can be part of their plan
- ◆ Participate in meetings with emergency management and the dialysis community
- ◆ Work with the ESRD Network to understand patient needs and assist with coordination of care during disasters
- ◆ Participate in local, state and national coalitions regarding

BEST PRACTICES

- ◆ Maintain year around readiness
- ◆ Develop a disaster response team
- ◆ Initiate a community-wide disaster preparedness teleconference
- ◆ Identify key contacts and obtain emergency numbers
- ◆ Ask patients “What’s your plan?”
- ◆ Establish partnership with local emergency management offices
- ◆ Work with local hospitals to coordinate and maximize readiness
- ◆ Engage all stakeholders to ensure active participation

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Agency for Health Care Administration
American Association of Kidney Patients
American Nephrology Nurses Association
American Renal Associates
Council of Nephrology Social Workers
Florida Renal Administrator’s Association
Kidney Group of Clearwater
National Kidney Foundation of Florida
DaVita
Polk County Emergency Management
Fresenius Medical Care, NA
Florida Department of Health
Sarasota Physician’s Dialysis
Florida House of Representatives
Pinellas County Emergency Management
Orange County Emergency Management
Florida Society of Nephrology
FMQAI: The Florida ESRD Network
Central Florida Kidney Center
Manatee County Emergency Management
Hillsborough County Emergency Management
LifeLink HealthCare Institute
North Beach Dialysis Center
TECO Energy

FLORIDA KIDNEY DISASTER COALITION

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The Florida Kidney Disaster Coalition

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

BACKGROUND

Kidney failure, often called End Stage Renal Disease or “ESRD”, is a life threatening condition affecting more than 26,000 Floridians. Without consistent dialysis treatment or medications to prevent rejection of a kidney transplant, kidney patients may experience severe illness or death.

Subsequent to the disastrous hurricane seasons in 2004 and 2005, dialysis and transplant facilities, patient and professional organizations, and other strategic partners involved in kidney disease recognized the need to improve planning and preparation for emergencies. By identifying and partnering with other key organizations, this group formed the Florida Kidney Disaster Coalition.

OBJECTIVES

- ◆ Educate renal care providers, renal organizations, local, state, federal agencies, patients, families and the general public about the needs of ESRD patients and of how to implement disaster preparedness and response activities.
- ◆ Ensure the coordination and communication of care and services between renal care providers, renal organizations, local, state and federal agencies.
- ◆ Aid state and local policy makers and emergency management organizations in developing comprehensive disaster preparedness and response plans that address the needs of the renal community.

FKDC TOOLS & RESOURCES

- ◆ Best Practices Toolkit
- ◆ Disaster Drill Instructional Guide
- ◆ Emergency Communications Kit
- ◆ All-Hazards Educational Series
- ◆ Community Partner Packet

To request copies of any of the Tools & Resources listed above, please contact FKDC at: FKDC@nw7.esrd.net or go to the FKDC website: www.fmqai.com/ESRD/FKDC/

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION IS THE KEY!

Coordination between dialysis providers and state and local emergency response officials is an essential component of ensuring the critical health needs of individuals with kidney failure are met. Waiting for an emergency or disaster to occur is too late!

Dialysis is dependent on the availability of power, gas, supplies, and water—commodities that, without proper planning, are difficult to access in the event of an emergency or disaster.

By establishing and maintaining year round communication with your community partners, you can help to ensure safety and continuity of care for kidney patients throughout the state of Florida.



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