



Opening Questions for Local Emergency Management Offices

Introduction

My name is _____. I represent the Florida Kidney Disaster Coalition. I'm (job title) with the (clinic name) in your county. I am interested in talking with you about how we can work together to meet our patients' needs in the time of disaster. I would like to come to one of your meetings and discuss how we can help each other. I would also like to invite a representative from each dialysis facility in the county to participate.

At the meeting:

Encourage EOC personnel to visit the dialysis facility and assist with storm planning.

Clarify availability of transportation between the shelters and facilities.

Determine if the EOC considers dialysis patients special needs clients. If not, arrange a meeting with the special needs coordinator and health department.

Ask the EOC if it's possible to assign patients, families, and staff to shelters near the designated backup facilities.

Ask the EOC what we can do to help them in assisting ESRD patients during a disaster.

Ask how Emergency Management and the centers can work together to ensure dialysis is available as soon as possible after the storm.

Helpful hints:

Although the coalition often uses the term EOC; the actual department is called Emergency Management or ESF8 (emergency support function 8 which provides health and medical services).