

Emergency Preparedness Patient Checklist

Emergency Preparedness

If you are involved in a natural disaster, such as a flood, earthquake, or winter storm, please follow these instructions:

1

Call 911 if you need emergency medical care. If you are a Hospice client, contact the Hospice on-call nurse for emergency medical care issues.

2

If you must leave your home, call Marcus Daly Home Care staff. Be ready to give the new address and phone number where you can be reached so your care can be continued in a timely manner.

3

If you decide to stay home, let your nurse know whether your home can be reached by car. If not, Home Care staff will work with you on possible alternatives.

4

If you need medical care or supplies normally provided by Home Care staff and they are unable to get to you, go to the nearest medical facility or hospital for essential care until Home Care services can be resumed.

5

If you are on an IV infusion pump and have no electricity, Home Care staff may give you an emergency "gravity" method of infusing your fluids if approved by your doctor for your therapy. IV pumps generally have a backup battery, which will last for a limited time.

6

If your water is contaminated, you and/or your caregiver should wash your hands with alcohol (rubbing or isopropyl) or hydrogen peroxide prior to doing any sterile procedures. **DO NOT EXPOSE YOUR CATHETER OR CATHETER SITE TO ANY DIRTY WATER.**

7

Marcus Daly Home Care staff will try to contact you, but calling into an area struck by a natural disaster can be very difficult. Telephone lines are often jammed. Please call out and try to make contact with us so we can help you with your specific emergency needs.

HOW PREPARED ARE YOU???? Please turn this sheet over and utilize the checklist to be sure you are prepared for a natural disaster.

Emergency Checklist

MEDICATIONS

- _____ Be prepared with at least three days worth of medications in advance.
- _____ If you use insulin, prefill syringes for three days.
- _____ If you use oxygen, arrange for a backup unit through your oxygen distributor. If you need power for oxygen or an infusion pump, ask your utility company if you can have priority in power outages.

FOOD AND WATER

- _____ Store three days worth of food and water.

MONEY

- _____ Have cash on hand to help you make it through the emergency period.

FLASHLIGHT AND RADIO

- _____ Store a flashlight, battery-operated radio, and extra batteries in case of power loss.
- _____ A radio will help keep you informed of warnings and instructions.

PLAN AHEAD

- _____ Select an emergency contact to provide transportation if you need skilled medical care.
- _____ Post emergency numbers by each phone, including your doctor and home care agency.
- _____ Consider a personal emergency response unit (e.g., Lifeline).
- _____ Post medical instructions on your refrigerator or another easy-to-see spot for rescue crews to see, or carry a medical ID card.
- _____ If floods are a concern, learn safe routes to high grounds ahead of time.
- _____ Don't let your supply of fuel get too low.
- _____ Don't be afraid to ask for help from neighbors, friends, or family.

Source: Marcus Daly Home Care, Hamilton, MT.