

SPECIAL NEEDS PATIENTS

Tab DD

Special Needs (SN) people are medically dependent individuals who have physical or mental conditions that limit their ability to function on their own and who cannot provide for or arrange their own transportation or sheltering outside a risk area. Generally, SN people reside in nursing homes or in other residential healthcare facilities, or are Home Health Patients who require home treatment or care.

Long Term Care Patients:

In an emergency, when long term care facilities experience a situation which displaces residents, University of Mississippi Medical Center will work with these area facilities to accommodate patients on a temporary basis. Ideally, residents will return to their facilities of origin as soon as possible. In the short term, long term care facility residents may be offered temporary housing in one or all of the following UMMC facilities: University Rehabilitation Center, University Hospital Holmes County, and Durant Nursing Facility. The Administrator on Call or his/her designee will determine the availability of beds and personnel at the time of the emergency.

Patients under treatment for cancer:

Patients under treatment for cancer who present to UMMC for care while displaced from their primary facilities will be managed on a case-by-case basis. The UMMC oncology team will review medical records to verify the patient's disease and treatment plan in progress. If the patient has no such records, the oncology team will make every effort to communicate with the patient's primary oncologist or clinic to obtain such medical records. In cases where no records are available, the UMMC Oncology team will reassess the patient to confirm diagnosis and determine the best course of action. In all cases, every effort will be made to continue treatment in a timely manner.

Dialysis Patients:

Patients with kidney failure must undergo lifesaving dialysis several times a week to remove the toxins from their blood. However, in an emergency situation, many dialysis clinics would be unable to treat patients due to lack of electricity, running water and damage from winds and flooding. Many patients may be displaced from their homes and many must receive dialysis at outlying centers.

Dialysis units outside of the affected areas should prepare for accepting transient patients without advance notice or medical records during this time.

Emergency Contact Information for Dialysis Patients:

There are five corporations that have traditionally provided dialysis services to over 70 percent of the dialysis patients in the affected areas. Each organization has emergency procedures in place to assist patients with obtaining dialysis services and can often assist with locating transportation services for dialysis, obtaining dialysis supplies, and with renal medications. It is advisable that patients contact the organization where their traditional facility was affiliated because they will be able to access information from

their medical record. However, if a patient is unsure of the affiliation, or was receiving services from an independent facility, they can contact any organization and will receive the same level of service. Additionally, the End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Networks can assist patients in locating an available facility for dialysis and necessary items such as transportation for dialysis, dialysis supplies, and renal medications.

- Toll free Davita- Hurricane Hotline 1.800.400.8331
- Toll free FMCNA- Hurricane Hotline 1.800.626.1297
- Toll free RCG- Patient Transient Assistance 1.888.724.4242
- Toll free Gambro- Patient Transient Assistance 1.877.842.6276
- Toll free Gambro- Patient Transient Assistance 1.866.815.2394
- Toll free DCI- Patient Transient Assistance - 1.800.969.4438 or 615.327.3061
- Network 6 (Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina) 1.800.524.7139
- Network 7 (Florida) 1.800.826.3773
- Network 8 (Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee) 1.877.936.9260
- Network 13 (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma) 1.800.472.8664
- Network 14 (Texas) 1.877.886.4435

Patients who are traveling away from their home units and who require transient treatments should contact one or more of the corporate providers below to locate the closest available unit. Those numbers are as follows:

DaVita:	800-400-8331
DCI:	800-969-4438
Fresenius (FMC):	800-626-1297
Gambro Healthcare:	877-842-6276 or 866-815-2394
Renal Care Group (MS):	800-770-2993
Renal Care Group (TN):	888-736-2573 ext. 112

Patients who are unable to locate a treatment facility with these options should contact the Network office at 601-936-9260.

Other Resources for Evacuees:

- [ESRD Network 13 \(AR/LA/OK\)](#) (link opens in a new browser)
- [ESRD Network 14 \(TX\)](#) (link opens in a new browser)

- Network 8 (Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee)
www.esrdnetworks.org/networks/net8/net8.htm

In some cases, an ESRD facility may be able to coordinate with a hospital to dialyze some ESRD patients utilizing inpatient equipment, although the patients were never admitted to the hospital. In all cases when a patient is being seen as a result of the disaster, the patient should be supplied with facility contact information, including corporate affiliation where appropriate. Emergency workers use this information (where feasible) to ensure that patients receive services from the same facility until they leave the area for a better environment. Additionally, the new treating facility will be able to use this information (where feasible) to ensure that patients receive services from the same facility until they leave the area for a better environment. Additionally, the new treating facility will be able to use this information to obtain any necessary patient and clinical information. (See Appendix DD)

Additionally, at the end of each treatment, the patient should be supplied with a hard copy document that includes the clinical information a provider would need at the next session (e.g., daily run sheet).

Also, even if actual medications are provided to a patient on-site, the patient should be provided with a written prescription to ensure that they can obtain additional medication if they are transported from the area.