

EMERGENCY TIPS FOR PEOPLE WHO USE LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS

(DIALYSIS, RESPIRATOR, OXYGEN, SUCTION,
INTRAVENOUS PUMP, INFUSION THERAPY)

DATE COMPLETED	ACTIVITIES
_____	Secure Equipment.
_____	Maintain current list of Alternate Providers.
_____	Obtain Alternate Power source.
_____	Obtain a Generator.
_____	Oxygen Users.
_____	Regularly Test and Back Up power supply.
_____	Register with Utility Company.
_____	Teach a Personal Support Network how to operate and safely move your equipment.

Secure Equipment.

- Secure any life support equipment to prevent damage from falling. If you use a chain to secure equipment, make sure it is a welded (not bent) chain.

Alternate Providers

- Determine which facilities/providers would serve you in the event that your home system becomes inoperable or your provider is unable to provide you service.

Alternate Power

Discuss with your vendor alternative power sources that will provide you with support for up to five to seven days.

- Could you use a generator? What type?
- Could you use manually operated equipment?
- Can your equipment be powered from a vehicle battery? If yes, obtain necessary hardware for the hook-up.

Obtain a Generator

Obtain a generator, if appropriate and feasible. To run generators in an emergency, fuel must be safely stored. Generators need to be operated in an open area to ensure good ventilation. A 2,000 to 2,500-watt gas-powered portable generator can power a refrigerator and several lamps. (A refrigerator needs to run only 15 minutes an hour to stay cool if you keep the door closed. So, you could unplug it to operate a microwave or other appliance.)