



# Kidney Q&A

0-3 months

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## Q: What should I do if the dialysis center is closed for an emergency?

**A:** Once in a while, your dialysis center may close due to a snow or ice storm, a tornado, hurricane, flood, or other emergency.

Your center will tell you what to do in an emergency—usually in a packet when you start dialysis. If your center is the only one closed, a staff member will call you to go to another center or come to treatment on a different day.

Your center should have a plan for what you should do if bad weather or an emergency affects your whole area. You will need to watch what you eat and drink more carefully.

### What I can do to stay safe if my center closes:

- Ask my center how I will know when it is closed for an emergency.
- Ask my center what I should do if it is closed for an emergency.
- Get a copy of the booklet *Preparing for Emergencies: A Guide for People on Dialysis* from my center or my ESRD Network.

- Call the National Kidney Foundation at (800) 622-9010 and ask for the *Emergency Meal Planning Guide*, or find it on the web at [www.kidney.org/atoz/atozTopic.cfm?topic=4](http://www.kidney.org/atoz/atozTopic.cfm?topic=4).
- Ask my dietitian for a list of foods I can eat in an emergency.
- Visit the website of the Kidney Community Emergency Response (KCER) Coalition for updates if there is an emergency: [www.kcercoalition.com](http://www.kcercoalition.com).