

About the UNC Health Care Emergency Preparedness Program...

UNC Health Care is a member of the National Preparedness Coalition and is committed to promoting personal preparedness initiatives for our staff, patients and the general public.

In addition to promoting personal preparedness initiatives, the Emergency Preparedness Program's primary goal is to provide our staff with emergency preparedness procedures and plans that address appropriate responses to emergencies. UNC Health Care takes an all-hazards approach to address events that could significantly disrupt our environment, quality of care, quality of services, or increase the demands for services. The primary source for developing and directing its plans and program is the Emergency Preparedness Planning Committee. This committee includes membership from clinical, administrative, support services, and medical staff internal to the organization, as well as members of the community that include the Orange County Health Department, Orange County Emergency Services, the Chapel Hill Fire Department, the American Red Cross and UNC-CH.

For more
emergency
preparedness
topics
visit the
addresses below:

www.ready.gov
www.redcross.org
www.bt.cdc.gov
www.fema.gov
www.readync.org
www.readyorange.org

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Emergency Preparedness
Program
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A National Preparedness Coalition
Member

Health and Medical Emergency Preparedness



LEADING | TEACHING | CARING

During an emergency or disaster, health and medical services can be overwhelmed or disrupted for extended periods of time. In addition to making sure you family has enough food and water, you should also strive be prepared medically, especially if you have unique or special medical or healthcare needs

Pre-Planning For Emergencies

What medical equipment, services or medication do you use in your daily? Take a moment to sit down as a family or household and document exactly what medical equipment, services, and medication each person uses or requires for daily living. Be sure to include an special instructions, maintenance, or operating requirements such as the need for refrigeration, electricity, or water.

Make a disaster or emergency plan. This plan should include:

- Where you will go if services or utilities are disrupted
- A complete list of your essential medical supplies and medications (over-the-counter and prescriptions)
- A list of your pharmacies, Home Health or Primary Health providers, medical equipment suppliers. Include their primary and emergency contact information numbers.
- Emergency contact information for at least two relatives or close friends that may be able to help in emergency
- Alternative medical and healthcare facilities in the event your local hospital or primary provider is inaccessible

Share your plan. Ensure that your Primary or Home Health provider has a copy of your emergency plan.

Also consider sharing your plan with your family and friends, they may have a recommendation or addition for something you missed.

Sign up on a special needs registry. If you have any special medical or health service needs, contact your local, Health Department, Social Services Office, Emergency Services Office or Sheriffs Office to find out if your County has a special needs registry. Also contact your utility company to find out if they have a priority registry for individuals with special medical needs or life support equipment.

Developing Your Emergency Medical Supply Kit

Following a major emergency or disaster, medical supplies and medications are often initially unavailable. It is essential that individuals develop Emergency Medical Supply Kits to address this shortage.

This kit, like any emergency kit should be kept in a accessible area and items should be replaced as necessary. This kit is a supplement to your normal family emergency kit and should not be in replacement of those items such as food, water, clothes, etc.

Items to include in your Emergency Medical Supply Kit include:

- 5-7 day supply of medications; prescription and over-the-counter
- If possible, 30 day supply of prescription medication.
- 5-7 day supply of medical supplies; dressings, bandages, testing strips/supplies, syringes, etc.
- Back-up batteries for any medical devices that are used on a regular basis

- A telephone that plugs directly into the wall, and does not require electricity. These phones will often work even if the power is out
- 3-5 day supply of food that meets any special dietary needs you may have
- 3-5 days supply of water for personal and medical purposes
- Photocopies or electronic copies of all insurance cards, medical records, or other important medical or health information

Additional Considerations During and After an Emergency or Disaster

- Immediately following a disaster or emergency situation, your local health infrastructure may not be functioning or operational. You must be prepared to evacuate or travel if necessary.
- Determine exactly what your short and long term medical needs are. If you have to evacuate, this information will help ensure you are directed to an appropriate shelter location.
- Remember that the medically fragile and persons with cognitive and/or physical disabilities will likely require more assistance and will take longer to evacuate
- Landline and cell phone circuits will be extremely busy and should only be used in the event of an emergency
- Expect longer than usual response times for emergency services due to increased demand for services and possible road blockages.