If you are involved in a natural disaster such as a tornado, blizzard, flood, or fire, please follow these instructions:

- If you must leave your home, please call us to arrange for delivery of your supplies. Be ready to give us your new address and phone number where you can be reached.
- If your area is involved in a disaster and you decide to stay home, please let us know if your home can be reached by a delivery driver. If not, we can help you arrange for delivery of your therapy supplies.
- If you need emergency medical care or medical supplies, go to the nearest hospital in an unaffected area.
- If you have no electricity, please contact us so we can provide extra supplies, i.e. batteries, coolers and/or ice packs, for appropriate storage and/or delivery of your home infusion therapy.
- If your water is contaminated, you and/or your caregiver can wash your hands with alcohol (rubbing alcohol or isopropyl alcohol) or hydrogen peroxide prior to performing any sterile procedures. We can also provide you with hand sanitizer that does not require water for use. Do not expose your IV catheter or catheter site to any unclean water.

Under disaster conditions, we will try to contact you. However, calling into an area which has been involved in a natural disaster can be very difficult, and telephone lines may be overwhelmed or out-of-service. Therefore, please try to call and establish contact with us. We will then make plans based on your specific emergency needs.
Thank you for selecting Regional Health Home+ Home Infusion

As a part of Regional Health, our mission is to provide and support health care excellence in partnership with the communities we serve. Regional Health Home+ Home Infusion will provide medications and supplies for home infusion therapy.

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WASTE DISPOSAL

Proper waste disposal will ensure safety and provide infection control for you and others.

Please follow these guidelines for handling waste:

- Do not recap needles. All needles, syringes, and other equipment should be disposed of in a puncture-resistant safety “sharps” container.
- Tissues and soiled dressings should be discarded into a plastic-lined bag. This bag should be placed in another garbage bag.
- Blood and body wastes can be poured down the drain or flushed down the toilet.
- Surfaces or equipment which have been contaminated by blood or other bodily fluids should be washed with a solution of detergent, water and household bleach. Always wear disposable gloves and use paper towels. Discard disposable items into a plastic-lined bag and then place in another garbage bag.

Disposal of unused medications:

If your therapy has ended and you have extra medication, please contact our office. Our staff will instruct you on how to properly dispose of any medications.

Supply Returns:

Infusion pumps will be returned to Regional Health Home+ Home Medical Equipment in the provided shipping container or taken to their location at 1800 N. Haines Avenue, Rapid City, SD 57701. No other supplies will be accepted for credit.

Proper waste disposal will ensure safety and provide infection control for you and others.
Here are some tips:

- Change dressings and perform catheter care on schedule.
- Daily personal cleanliness is encouraged.
- Always wear gloves when handling blood or bodily fluids.
- Any caregiver with an open cut or skin condition should not care for you until the condition has cleared.
- Avoid contact with those who have colds or other infectious diseases. If your caregiver has a cold or other infectious respiratory disease, a mask should be worn.
- Caregivers should wear a protective gown, mask, and gloves when in contact with patient blood or body fluid is likely.
- Use only disposable razors for shaving.
- Thermometers should be used only by one person.
- Wash dirty dishes in detergent and hot water immediately after use.
- Wash surfaces or equipment contaminated with blood or other body fluids with a solution of detergent, water and household bleach.
- Place soiled linens in a plastic-lined laundry bag. Launder in hot water.
Any signs/symptoms of infection should immediately be reported to your doctor.

**INFECTION CONTROL**

Signs/symptoms of infection may include:
- An increase in body temperature above 100 degrees Fahrenheit
- Tenderness, pain, swelling, redness, or draining around catheter site
- Rashes, spots, or other skin disorders

Cleanliness is essential when handling and administering medications in the home. Please review the following guidelines for safe practice:
- Wash your hands well using a liquid soap. Be sure to wash all parts of your hands including the top and bottom, between fingers, and under fingernails. Use a paper towel to dry your hands. Use an alcohol-based sanitizer if no soap and water is available.
- Clean the work area thoroughly before use. Only place necessary supplies in the work area. Do not allow children or pets in the work area.
- Avoid contact with sterile areas of infusion supplies. If contact occurs, discard the item.
- Select a well-lit, low traffic area away from doorways and fans. This will minimize dust particles in the air.

**DELIVERY OF SUPPLIES**

Your supplies may be received by in-office pickup, nurse delivery, or delivery service.

Please check your delivery for the following:
- The number of boxes delivered should match the number on the delivery receipt. If a delivery service is used, the driver will ask you to sign for the shipment.
- Check that the items in the box match the delivery receipt.
- Check for signs of damage: water marks, holes, dents, or leaks.
- Check the prescription label for your name.
- Check the expiration date on all medications and solutions. Do not use outdated items.

If you have problems with your delivery, please contact us and follow these guidelines:

**DAMAGED PACKAGES** – Write in the number of damaged boxes and damage type on the delivery receipt before signing it. Have the driver return the damaged items to us. Please call to make arrangements for a replacement.

**INCOMPLETE DELIVERY** – Make a list of missing items on the supply receipt and contact us.

**WRONG SUPPLIES** – Please call us to coordinate the return shipment of any wrong supplies. You will not be charged for any supplies you receive in error.

**LATE DELIVERY** – Please call us if your delivery does not arrive on time. We will contact the delivery service to find out where your shipment is and make alternate arrangements if necessary.

Each shipment will include replacement supplies. Your first shipment will include reserve supplies, such as extra flushes, dressing kit, and tubing. Please keep reserve supplies on hand in case of delays in delivery. Should you stop therapy, your therapy changes, or if your supply needs change for any reason, such as a hospital stay, please call us to make changes to your supplies.
Safely managing your home infusion therapy is very important.

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

Here are some tips:

- Check the medication label to make sure the following are correct:
  - Patient name and date of birth
  - Medication name
  - Medication dose
  - Number of times the medication is given daily
- Look at the medication and make sure it hasn’t changed colors or has any particles floating in it. If you see this, do not use this medication and call Home+ Home Infusion.

- Keep all medications and medical supplies out of the reach of children and pets. If possible, keep the supplies in a separate, locked area.

- Keep all emergency telephone numbers by your phone.

- Remember to tell our nurse or pharmacist if any of your medications change.

- Use only the supplies prescribed by your doctor. Never lend or borrow supplies from others.

- Your therapy may require the use of needles. To prevent needle sticks to yourself and/or others, all used needles and syringes should be disposed of in the safety “sharps” container provided. DO NOT RECAP YOUR NEEDLES.

- If you are receiving chemotherapy, all used chemotherapy agents and supplies should be disposed of in the safety containers provided.

- Keep a list of medications that you are taking with you at all times.

**HOME SAFETY**

You can help protect yourself and/or your caregiver from injuries or accidents while you are receiving infusion therapy at home.

Here are some tips:

- If possible, keep a clear path through your home. Move objects that could trip you, like electrical cords or throw rugs. Lift only small amounts of supplies at a time. Remember to bend your knees and keep your back straight. If possible, ask for help from your family or neighbors.

- Make sure your smoke/fire detectors are in good working order.

- Ask for help when going up or down stairs.

- Bathroom safety: When necessary, ask for help to sit/stand and enter/exit from bathtub/shower. A shower chair may be beneficial to help prevent falls.

- Please call us if you have any safety questions.

**Storing Supplies:**

To ensure proper storage of your medication and supplies at home:

- Do not leave supplies or medications in the delivery box.

- Check each item for storage requirements. Instructions will be included on the product label or teaching sheets.

- Room temperature: 60-85 degrees Fahrenheit (supplies and some infusion/injectable medications)

- Refrigerated: 36-46 degrees Fahrenheit (most infusion/injectable medications)

- Store away from direct sunlight.

- Rotate supplies to use oldest supplies first and to ensure medications do not expire.