



The First Ten Plays

Planning for Special Needs Medical Equipment*

- **Compile a file of all of your critical equipment, including alternate vendors for repairs. Make copies and share them with others who can support you including local responders. This should include emergency phone numbers of vendors.**
- **Develop a plan for alternative power sources or other essential supplies, including how to switch over from standard power to alternate back ups.**
- **Check the instructions to ensure you can switch your equipment to alternate power sources. Also note special concerns if there are brown outs when power supplies are lower in amperage, which may cause damage to some machines or instruments.**
- **Check with your power company to ensure you have the appropriate connections to switch over power without damage.**
- **Instruct others on how to assist you if there are power shortages. Be sure to update this instruction if you change brands of equipment.**
- **Map locations you could use locally as a back up for your needs, and check with them to ensure you may go there as a safe haven (e.g., fire station, hospital, etc.).**
- **Attach laminated documents to your equipment that has your name, address, and basic instructions in case you are separated from the equipment during emergency evacuations, or you are unable to communicate with rescuers.**
- **Register with power companies and local official registries so it is known you use life-support devices dependent on electricity or other resources, like oxygen.**
- **Establish your residence as “priority reconnection service” with your electric utility.**
- **For those dependent on dialysis, ask your provider how you could receive emergency dialysis during disaster situations.**

** These are not listed in order of importance but as a group of materials that will increase the possibility of positive outcomes.*

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