

Considerations for Dialysis in Winter Weather and Cold and Flu Season

What do I do in severe weather conditions?

Severe weather conditions include ice, snow, or blizzard conditions that might make it difficult or unsafe for you to come to your scheduled dialysis treatments.

- Please call the dialysis unit as soon as possible if you will be late for your scheduled dialysis treatment, or if weather will prevent you from coming to your scheduled dialysis treatment.
- If you miss your scheduled treatment, we will make every effort to reschedule your dialysis within 24 hours (either in our dialysis unit or at a center closer to your home). If you miss 2 dialysis sessions in a row, you must go to your local Emergency Room so a provider can see how you're doing.

Call 911 or go to your local Emergency Room (ER) if you have any of the following symptoms:

- Chest pain
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Blood pressure that is out of your normal range and doesn't respond to medication, or high or low blood pressure with a headache, nausea, or blurred vision
- Seizures
- Other urgent concerns (catheter bleeding, confusion, etc.)

What should I know about dialysis during COVID-19 and cold and flu season?

- Protect yourself and the people you love against getting sick. Please

check your child's temperature as well as your own temperature before leaving for their dialysis session.

- Call the dialysis unit before dialysis if you or your child are experiencing any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever 100.4 ° Fahrenheit or higher
 - Cough and sore throat
 - Stuffy or runny nose
 - Headaches
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhea
 - Body aches
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Fatigue (feeling extremely tired)

If your child is experiencing any of these symptoms, the dialysis staff will make sure that your child is kept away from other patients so others do not get sick. This might include having to reschedule your dialysis treatment time. We appreciate your help in watching for early signs of a potential illness and preventing our patients from getting sick.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

The Pediatric Dialysis unit is open Monday through Saturday from 6:00 AM - 6:30 PM.

- Phone number: (734) 232-7373
- After hours paging operator: (734) 936-4000

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