



COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Date: October 10, 2024

To: Monterey County EMS Service Providers

From: County of Monterey EMS Agency

Subject: National Shortage of IV Fluids

Due to a critical national shortage of IV solutions (normal saline, D5W, etc.), EMS providers are strongly encouraged to refrain from initiating IV fluid therapy unless absolutely necessary for the care of critically ill or injured patients with life-threatening conditions requiring emergency IV fluid administration in the prehospital setting.

The national shortage stems from hurricane damage to a medical equipment and supply company's North Cove facility in Marion, North Carolina. Baxter supplies a large percentage of IV fluids utilized by medical systems and facilities throughout the United States.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) are also encouraging healthcare providers to work directly with their manufacturers to discuss the possibility of extending expiration dates for IV solutions in critical shortage to maximize available supply.

These recommendations remain in effect until further notice.

If you have any questions regarding these recommendations, please contact the EMS Agency at EMSAdmin@countyofmonterey.gov or (831) 755-5013.