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Subject: Conservation of Intravenous Fluids

Due to flooding from Hurricane Helene, Baxter International, which supplies about 60% of IV fluids in the US, experienced significant disruption to its facility in Marion, North Carolina. While re-opening the facility is a priority, there is no known timeline for this to occur. The impact on the availability of IV Fluid appears substantial and may result in challenges for resupply.

For now, product is available on the market, but allocations have been put in place to prevent hoarding and inappropriate distribution. Please work with and through your normal processes to obtain fluids.

Clinically, follow your protocols and only utilize IV fluids when the patient's condition indicates a need for a fluid bolus. Otherwise, use capped IVs (Fluid Locks) for medication administration and flushes.

If you have any questions, please address them to the State of Tennessee Office of EMS.

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