

From: [UCSFMC-ALL-RNS List](#) on behalf of [Antrum, Sheila](#)
To: UCSFMC-ALL-RNS@LISTSRV.UCSF.EDU
Subject: Impacts to IV Fluid Access
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Attachments: [image001.png](#)



Dear Colleagues,

As a result of damage to the Baxter manufacturing plant in North Carolina caused by Hurricane Helene, we are facing a shortage of IV fluids that is impacting hospitals nationwide. This plant produces a significant portion of the injectable agents and fluids that UCSF Health and our sister UCs rely on.

While we are aggressively pursuing alternative sources, we wanted to share the following information related to the current supply challenges.

Current Situation:

- We are closely monitoring our IV and irrigation fluid inventory across UCSF Health and taking steps to manage the available supply.
- Our procurement teams are actively working to identify alternative suppliers, but the national scope of this shortage means that securing additional inventory will take time.
- We are not making any immediate adjustments to our surgical schedules but may do so in the coming days.

Actions for Clinical Teams:

In the meantime, we ask all clinical teams to take the following steps:

- Conduct daily assessments to determine whether patients can safely transition from IV to oral medications.
- Shift patients to oral or enteral hydration whenever feasible.
- Discontinue maintenance IV fluids as soon as it is safe to do so.

As always, our patients come first. Please continue to exercise clinical judgment to ensure conservation efforts prioritize the health and safety of our patients.

Next Steps:

We are exploring additional conservation strategies for surgical and procedural areas, and we will share further guidelines as these are developed. Your attention and diligence in conserving our fluid resources are critical in navigating this situation.

Thank you for your partnership and resilience as we face these challenges together. We will provide an update in the coming days as the situation evolves.

Sincerely,

Sheila Antrum
Senior Vice President & COO, UCSF Health

Joshua Adler
Chief Clinical Officer, UCSF Health

Lukejohn Day, MD, MBA
System Chief Medical Officer, UCSF Health



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