

This huddle card provides an overview of the current IV fluid shortages and recommendations to mitigate the impact to patient care and conserve product on-hand.

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Situation

IV solutions in **bags of 250 mL or greater are in limited supply** due to allocations from our primary supplier. Releases are made in limited quantities and are currently difficult to obtain.

Background

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- These shortages are the result of manufacturer facility closure following Hurricane Helene.
- Procurement and conservation efforts are underway; however, supply disruptions are expected to continue for several months.
- This is a significant and serious shortage which will require coordinated efforts from all members of our clinical teams to help mitigate the burden and impact on our patients.

Assessment

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- Using larger (250 mL or greater) IV fluid bags for purposes of reconstituting or diluting medications will put a strain on inventories of these products and result in additional shortages.
- Supply Chain is actively engaged in this effort to ensure appropriate stewardship of product on hand while sourcing alternative product as necessary.

Recommendations

- Switch IV medications to oral medications in eligible patients.
- Order oral medications whenever possible.
- Review and implement strategies to promote oral fluid resuscitation and potassium replacement.
- Review medications administered as continuous infusions at higher rates.
 - o Review and implement strategies to **encourage IV push** over IV infusion.
 - o Consider leveraging non-titratable medications infusing above 20 mL/hr as carriers in place of a dedicated KVO.
 - o Discuss opportunities for conservation of IV solutions in ICU patients during Multidisciplinary Rounds.
- Share opportunities to conserve these products with your facility team!



