







# Supply Chain Shortage Alert

 <b>Product Details</b>	<b>Manufacturer:</b> Baxter	<b>Item:</b> IV Solutions (See attached list)
	<b>Estimated Impact:</b> High	<b>Estimated Duration:</b> Unknown
 <b>Situation</b>	<p>Products in the attached list are in <b>limited supply</b> due to allocations from our primary supplier (Baxter). Releases are made in limited quantities and are difficult to obtain.</p> <p>To manage this shortage safely, HealthTrust has developed the below recommendations in partnership with Clinical Services Group leaders.</p>	
 <b>Background</b>	<p>Baxter’s plant in North Cove, NC has been impacted by the unprecedented rain and storm surge from Hurricane Helene. Heavy rain and storm surge triggered a levee breach, which led to water permeating the facility and damage to some inventory and raw materials. As a result, the North Cove facility is currently closed for production until the situation is resolved.</p> <p>Baxter has instituted a brief shipment hold and will be implementing allocations to help ensure inventory is managed appropriately to minimize disruption to patient care.</p>	
 <b>Assessment</b>	<p>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 has evaluated days on hand for each product affected by this shortage. Supply Chain teams must review the attached document in the <b>Resources</b> section of this alert for a detailed summary of days on hand inventory. Teams are encouraged to evaluate this locally and implement the below strategies to conserve product.</p>	



## Recommendations

### Supply Chain Strategies

- Educate nursing, pharmacy, and provider staff about critical shortage and conservation strategies outlined below or in the attached huddle cards.
- Prioritize 0.9% NaCl and hypertonic solutions for neurology units/trauma/CCU/ICU.
  - Discuss use of alternative fluids with provider teams, as needed, to develop contingency plans if preferred fluid is in critically low supply.
- Work with Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee to allow automatic interchange with drips and IV's to alternative diluent when compatible.
- Pharmacy and Supply Chain teams should collaborate with nursing on a local plan to adjust PARs based on usage or remove IV solutions from floor stock and allocate from a central location, if necessary.
  - Remove IV solutions stored in Pyxis and dispense from pharmacy or other designated central area as necessary.

### General Conservation Strategies

- **Utilize oral medications whenever possible.**
  - Review and implement strategies to encourage oral fluid resuscitation and potassium replacement as outlined in the resources below.
- Utilize the lowest possible volume IV solution bag/container whenever possible.
  - If possible, **conserve larger volume bags by using minibags (100 mL) for blood product administration, when appropriate.**
  - **Consider using 500 mL bags for pressurized hemodynamic monitoring lines** instead of 1,000 mL bags.
- Investigate the ability to utilize premixed medications to offset the need to compound medications.
- Review IV fluid and medication compatibility chart in the resources below.
- Review medications administered as continuous infusions at higher rates. **Consider leveraging non-titratable medications infusing above 20 mL/hr as carriers in place of a dedicated KVO.**
- Print applicable drip rounds reports and review medication infusions for appropriateness and/or opportunity to discontinue or decrease rates.
- Review and implement strategies to **encourage IV push** over IV infusion.

Ensure local shortage management plans are communicated to frontline caregivers and processes are monitored for compliance with strategies to ensure safe patient care.



## Resources

- [Nursing Huddle Card](#)
- [Provider Huddle Card](#)
- [Oral Fluid Resuscitation Guidance](#)
- [HT Potassium Chloride Shortage Guidance](#)
- [HT Reconstitution Solutions for Common IV Push Meds](#)
- [IV Push Nursing Huddle Card](#)



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