

My Plan: Dialysis Emergency Takeoff

Remember, these directions are for emergency evacuation situations only.
It is recommended you follow your clinic's policy and procedure.

Sometimes in an emergency you may need to be taken off the dialysis machine in order to evacuate the clinic. To safely disconnect from your machine, your care team will share the clinic emergency plan with you. You should have your emergency pack available, wait for instructions from your care team and most of all stay calm.

What Is in an Emergency Pack

An emergency pack includes the supplies you should have to safely disconnect yourself from the dialysis machine. It includes scissors, tape, clamps, gloves and other items based on your care needs. The pack should be kept within your reach while you are on the dialysis machine.

How to Clamp and Disconnect from the Machine

- Clamp both access needle lines.
- Clamp both of the thicker blood lines.
- If the lines have pinch clamps, pinch all four clamps closed.

- Unscrew the lines between the closed clamps. If you **MUST** cut your lines, cut **ONLY** the thicker blood lines. **NEVER, NEVER cut your access needle lines. NEVER cut the line between the clamp and your access.**

If you have a **CATHETER**, your care team should assist you. Do not try to disconnect yourself.

If no care team member is available to help you or give you directions, here is what to do:

- After disconnecting from the dialysis machine, leave your access needles in place until you get to a safe place.

My Questions

Ask Your Care Team:

- Where is my emergency takeoff pack located?
- What are emergency drills and when do we practice them?
- What if I'm not able to get off the machine?
- What if no one is available to assist me?
- Where is the meeting place after evacuation?

Source: <http://www.kcercoalition.com/pdf/101501.pdf>

This material was prepared and distributed by Qsource ESRD Networks, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (contract numbers HHSM-500-2016-00010C and HHSM-500-2016-00012C). The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy. 19.Q-ESRD.06.048

