

# Guidelines for Incorporating the Macy Catheter into Emergency Preparedness Plan

Hospice patients may benefit from the Macy Catheter during an emergency event because the catheter provides a means to care for a patient in place when access is difficult and can also be used during an evacuation of a patient when needed.

Prolonged emergencies may isolate a patient from access to emergency medical care and medical supplies. These patients may be exposed to prolonged periods of environmental challenges such as extreme heat necessitating hydration. The Macy Catheter can provide hydration in even the most challenging of environments with non-sterile supplies and tap water. Follow your proctoclysis policy for guidelines on hydration.

## Recommended Guidelines

- Identify patients at high risk for decline or symptom management issues over the next 72 hours and discuss the Macy Catheter as an option to assure comfort when nursing staff may not have access to the patient.
- Make sure all staff are trained and comfortable with use, placement, medication, and fluid administration via the Macy Catheter.
- Ensure families are educated in use, replacing, medicating and administering fluids.
- Ensure two-week supply of medication in the home setting at all times.
- Ensure patients have at least 1 gallon of water per person/day for at least one week.
- It is good practice to have “runners” and after-hours staff carry trunk stock of the Macy Catheter.
- Set adequate par levels of the Macy Catheter to prepare for several days of increased catheter demand.
- Maintain adequate Macy Catheter stock at different sites to assure nursing access to the Macy Catheter in case of difficulty with access to any one particular site.
- Optimize medication dispensing systems in IPU or SNFs to ensure extra stock of immediate release medications.
- Consider comfort kit for needed oral formulary medications to control a variety of potential symptoms.