



Date: Oct 07, 2024  
To: All System members  
From: Vasilios (Bill) Toliopoulos, BSN, RN, PHRN  
EMS Administrative Director  
Kourtney Chesney, BSN, RN, PM  
EMS System Coordinator

System Memo: #432

RE: **URGENT NOTICE: EMS Notice to Supply Chain Impact for IV Solutions | ProVu Procedure**

### Hurricane Impacts Supply Chain for IV Solutions

Due to the impact of the recent hurricane, Baxter International, the largest manufacturer of intravenous (IV) and peritoneal dialysis solutions in the United States, has been forced to close its North Carolina facility. The facility is one of Baxter's most critical sites as it produces more than 60% of their IV solutions in the United States. Early indications are that the facility will remain closed for the remainder of 2024. The impact to the healthcare supply chain, already stressed by a labor strike on the East Coast, is significant.

Effective immediately, **Baxter is reducing shipments by more than half of historic amounts.** We are working with alternative suppliers to help cover the Baxter shortfall.

Given the uncertainty of this situation, it is important that we begin to take measures to conserve supplies. As we expect the shortage to continue throughout the remainder of 2024, we will also take a systematic approach to carefully controlling inventory and purchases for IV Solutions until the market recovers.

We appreciate your patience and support.

### EMS Guidance

- This will **not** discourage EMS from obtaining IV Access.
- Unless the patient needs IV fluids or IVP medications, please do not administer IV fluids TKO. A flushed saline lock is appropriate.
- Do not spike an IV bag until IV access is confirmed.
- Assess patient utilization of IV solutions when applicable.
- Follow SOP and Procedural guidance when utilizing IV solutions.
- Please reduce quantity of reserve ambulance IV bags to minimum required and move excess to front line.
- Inventory IV bag expiration dates to assure those close to expiration are being used first so that none are having to be discarded.
- Please limit warm IV Solutions to the recommended total count.

ALS	3	IV solution: Normal saline (1 in warmer; 2 room temp)	1000 mL bag
ALS	1	IV solution: Normal saline	250 mL bag
ALS	2 Opt	IV solution: NS for use with Sapphire pump ONLY)	50 mL bags   100 mL bags (alt if shortage)

### ProVu Procedure - Fillable Form

A **PDF Fillable form has been created** based on the Procedural Skill form for the ProVu video laryngoscope.

- The PDF will be available as an attachment to the system memo announcement.