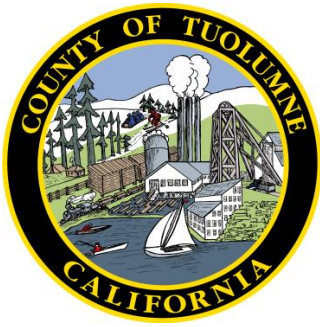




Tuolumne County Emergency Medical Services Agency

Kimberly Freeman, M.D.
EMS Medical Director

Katie Andrews
EMS Coordinator

20111 Cedar Road North.
Sonora, CA 95370

(209) 533-7460 • (209) 533-7406 Fax
<http://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/ems>

October 9, 2024

To: All EMS Personnel and receiving hospitals

From: Tuolumne County EMS Agency

Re: IV fluid shortages

Due to the destruction of infrastructure at a major domestic producer of intravenous fluids by Hurricane Helene, hospitals and EMS are experiencing a significant shortage of IV fluids.

Until further notice, advanced life support (ALS) EMS personnel are advised to withhold IV starts on patients with the following exceptions: patients meeting trauma triage criteria, meeting cardiac chest pain criteria, or meeting any clinical criteria that requires medications or fluids IV. The allowance to avoid an IV start does not allow a patient that meets ALS criteria to be downgraded to basic life support (BLS) for the transport.

Please contact the EMS Agency for any questions.

Thank you,

Kimberly Freeman, MD, MBA, CPE, FACEP, Paramedic
EMS Medical Director, Tuolumne County