

POST-DISASTER REOPENING PROCEDURES FOR OTHER HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Step 1: Verification of Conditions

Facility Administration should coordinate with county emergency managers to understand conditions of roadways leading to and from the facility.

Each facility should confirm open routes for resident/patient transport and emergency services in the event of a facility fire or other secondary event.

Step 2: Conduct supply and facility damage assessment

Within 24-hours post-disaster, if road conditions allow, appropriate facility staff should conduct a damage assessment of the facility.

Ensure continuity of food and water supplies for residents or patients and staff and monitor pharmaceutical and equipment needs for residents or patients.

Step 3: If no damage is noted and full services offered

When the facility returns to full-service following a zero-damage assessment, notify Health Regulation at the DHEC Agency Coordination Center (ACC).

- Send confirmation of return-to-service to: ACC-HealthReg@dhec.sc.gov
- Call ACC-HealthReg Desk at 803-898-3685

Agency follow-up will occur as staff are able. **Continue to Step 5.**

No immediate response from DHEC is required for you to operate at Step 3

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Step 4: If facility is damaged or limited services offered

If any of the following apply to your facility post-disaster, **YOU MUST IMMEDIATELY CONTACT DHEC BEFORE PROCEEDING:**

- Post-disaster assessment reveals damage to the physical plant
- Evacuated facility must remain closed due to damage or other circumstances
- Facility will not return to immediate service or will return to limited service

CALL 803-898-3685 OR EMAIL ACC-HealthReg@dhec.sc.gov

Step 5: Repatriation of evacuated residents/patients

Understand that repatriation may not occur as quickly as evacuation. If EMS resources are needed for resident/patient transport, available EMS resources will focus immediately on new medical emergencies.

Prior to engaging in repatriation activities, each facility should:

- Contact their contracted transportation service to arrange resident/patient transport.
- Contact receiving facilities, if applicable, to verify status of individual residents/patients.
- Prepare a list of facilities and residents/patients for transmittal to State EMS and transport staff, if State EMS transport is requested.

Contact ACC-HealthReg to notify of approximate repatriation timeline and expected census.

- Send this information to: ACC-HealthReg@dhec.sc.gov
- Call ACC-HealthReg Desk at 803-898-3685

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

South Carolina Emergency Management Division.....803-737-8500