

EMERGENCY KITS: *Are you ready?*

An HSA Microlearning Session Summary in partnership with Oregon Office of Rural Health.

OUR GOAL:

Help Rural Health Clinics build a complete, reliable emergency-response process—so your team can respond quickly, confidently, and safely when every second counts.



KNOW THE REQUIREMENTS

- CMS requires medical emergency procedures and life-saving medications to be available on-site.
- Emergency response is a direct service using your staff and resources.
- The Medical Director determines kit contents based on patient population, services provided, and clinic-specific risks.



BUILD & MAINTAIN THE SYSTEM

- Keep the emergency kit within the certified RHC.
- Include medication and essential supplies.
- Ensure security and immediate access.
- Monitor medications, supplies, and emergency equipment.
- Staff should know their roles, where the kit is, and how to access it.



STRENGTHEN READINESS

- Common deficiencies include:
 - expired medications
 - missing supplies and unclear responsibilities
 - multi dose vials without open date
 - single dose vials open/stored
- Provide clear after-hours instructions for patients.
- Keep policy, inventory, and kit contents aligned.
- Document emergency transfers.
- Provide clear after-hours instructions for patients.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:



- Be ready before the emergency happens.
- Find the balance between security and accessibility.
- Monitor, document, and restock routinely.
- Your policy, inventory, and kit should always tell the same story.



Emergency care isn't just about passing a survey—it's about being ready to provide immediate, potentially life-saving care when it matters most.

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