

The Forum of ESRD Networks has defined a **Highly Effective Practice** as:
A procedure or set of processes that has been shown by research and/or experience to produce optimal results and that is established or proposed a practice suitable for widespread adoption.

Title/Name of Project: Full Scale Emergency Preparedness Community Drill
Area of Interest: Emergency/Disaster Preparedness
Name of Organization/Contact: David Henner, DO
Berkshire Medical Center
ESRD Network 1
Pittsfield, MA

DESCRIPTION & OUTCOMES: The Berkshire Medical Center conducted a full-scale emergency drill including dialysis staff and community partners (police, fire dept, ambulances, emergency department, etc.), and volunteer mock patients.

EXPLAIN WHY THE PROJECT/ACTIVITY IS A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PRACTICE: The activity will optimally help dialysis staff be prepared in case of a true emergency and will help community partners who participate in the drill to understand the needs of dialysis patients and their unique circumstances and will help to coordinate with dialysis staff. In addition, dialysis staff will learn invaluable lessons from full scale drills involving community partners that would not be easily evident with mock or table-top drills. In the event of a true emergency, dialysis staff needs to be prepared and ready to respond quickly, and learning from full-scale drills will help them to be optimally prepared.

WERE ANY FORUM/NETWORK TOOLS/INTERVENTIONS USED? Yes, the [Outpatient Medical Director Toolkit](#).

This Highly Effective Practice was received by the Forum on October 14, 2022, and approved by the Forum's Sharing Highly Effective Practices Review Committee on November 21, 2023.