



Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

October 11, 2024

Secretary Xavier Becerra
US Dept. of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra,

Hospitals and health systems across Wisconsin have expressed their grave concern about the shortage of IV solutions that is occurring nationwide due to the devastating impact of Hurricane Helene. The effects of this shortage have unfortunately already caused the delay of planned, non-emergency surgeries in our state.

I know how seriously you are taking this issue and appreciate the efforts you have made to mitigate the impact of the supply chain disruption that has occurred due to the Baxter Medical facility in North Carolina reducing its capacity. Wisconsin hospitals will continue to do all that they can to prevent interruptions in patient care and appreciate the tools and strategies you have outlined in recent days. However, I know that there is also potential for Hurricane Milton to impact IV solution production facilities, further compounding the need for creative solutions.

I understand that additional plants have been activated in an effort to restore supply and minimize disruptions and that federal partners are reviewing potential other options to expedite approvals in critical areas. We appreciate these steps and we ask you to continue deploying every potential resource and explore every available option to address these pressing challenges, including FDA shortage declarations, price gauging prevention strategies, and the acquisition of supply from international sources, in order to prevent any additional disruptions.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office if there is a need for any additional information about the impacts on Wisconsin hospitals, or if we can be of assistance. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Tony Evers'.

Tony Evers
Governor

Cc: White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs