



Getting Your Prescription Medication During a Disaster



It is important to have in your **Disaster Survival Kit** your prescribed medicines. But, what happens when there is an emergency and your insurance company says it is too early for you to get a refill?

The “Emergency Prescription Refill” law lets you refill your prescribed medicines during a disaster if your county:

- Is currently under a hurricane warning issued by the National Weather Service
- Is declared to be under a state of emergency in an executive order issued by the governor or
- Has started its emergency operations center and its emergency management plan



During a storm, you should listen to the radio or news on television to know if any of the above conditions are going to occur.



This law also allows patients outside of these areas to get an emergency **72-hour refill** if the pharmacist is unable to quickly get an approval from the doctor for a refill. Please talk with your doctor and pharmacist now about how this new law can help you.

Make sure you are ready this hurricane season by having a list of all your medicines, including the name of the doctor who wrote the prescription, the name of the drug, the amount of medicine to take and the name and location of your pharmacy.

Select Year: 2011

The 2011 Florida Statutes

[Title XVII](#)[Chapter 252](#)[View Entire Chapter](#)MILITARY AFFAIRS AND RELATED MATTERS [EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT](#)

252.358 **Emergency-preparedness prescription medication refills.**—All health insurers, managed care organizations, and other entities that are licensed by the Office of Insurance Regulation and provide prescription medication coverage as part of a policy or contract shall waive time restrictions on prescription medication refills, which include suspension of electronic “refill too soon” edits to pharmacies, to enable insureds or subscribers to refill prescriptions in advance, if there are authorized refills remaining, and shall authorize payment to pharmacies for at least a 30-day supply of any prescription medication, regardless of the date upon which the prescription had most recently been filled by a pharmacist, when the following conditions occur:

- (1) The person seeking the prescription medication refill resides in a county that:
 - (a) Is under a hurricane warning issued by the National Weather Service;
 - (b) Is declared to be under a state of emergency in an executive order issued by the Governor; or
 - (c) Has activated its emergency operations center and its emergency management plan.
- (2) The prescription medication refill is requested within 30 days after the origination date of the conditions stated in this section or until such conditions are terminated by the issuing authority or no longer exist. The time period for the waiver of prescription medication refills may be extended in 15- or 30-day increments by emergency orders issued by the Office of Insurance Regulation.

This section does not excuse or exempt an insured or subscriber from compliance with all other terms of the policy or contract providing prescription medication coverage. This section takes effect July 1, 2006.

History.—s. 29, ch. 2006-71.

Copyright © 1995-2011 The Florida Legislature • [Privacy Statement](#) • [Contact Us](#)