

Special Care Criteria

SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTER: A special needs shelter is a temporary emergency facility capable of providing special medical or nursing care which does not necessitate an acute care setting (hospital). Eligible persons desiring special care sheltering should pre-register with Columbia County Emergency Management.

ELIGIBLE CITIZENS: Columbia County residents who fit into any of the following categories, regardless of age, are eligible.

1. Unable to administer their own frequently required or daily injectable medications.
2. Requires daily or more frequent dressing changes because of moderate or copious drainage, such as ulcers, fistulas, etc.
3. Needs assistance with ostomy management, and indwelling catheters of any kind (n/g tube, colostomy bags, etc.)
4. Activities of daily living are so restricted by immobility that their basic needs must be met by others and those people are unavailable for this emergency.
5. Requires daily assessment of unstable medical condition by professional nursing personnel, i.e. cardiac, diabetic, etc.
6. Cardiac or respiratory conditions which require special equipment such as oxygen, apnea monitors, or nebulizer machines, etc.
7. Terminal illness, yet ambulatory, in need of professional assistance in administering heavy doses of pain medication.
8. All others deemed necessary by triage nurse.

Persons in the following categories **WILL NOT** be eligible for care in the Special Needs Shelter:

1. Persons requiring hemodialysis procedures more than two times per week. Individuals must check their own facility regarding arrangements for such situations.
2. High risk pregnancy within four weeks of estimated due date of delivery or in active labor. Ordinary pregnancy should get instructions from their obstetrician.
3. Persons in sudden acute medical or emergency condition.
4. Bedridden persons & persons requiring a hospital type bed who, for medical reasons, cannot use cots for emergency bedding & persons requiring a Hoyer lift for transfers.
5. Persons who, for medical reasons, require continuous air conditioning.
6. Oxygen dependent persons requiring oxygen 4 liter flow and higher.