

# KNOW THE FACTS!

## Medical Community



### Preparing for Water Quality Preventative Maintenance Program

In a continuing effort to improve water quality, the following water utilities: Archdale, Burlington, Greensboro, High Point, Jamestown, Randleman, Reidsville and the Piedmont Triad Regional Water Authority will conduct a routine water quality preventive maintenance program beginning on December 7, 2021 and ending April 13, 2022. This process will involve a temporary switch from present chloramines to chlorine to optimize water quality in our distribution systems.

#### Why change the disinfection treatment process?

The periodic water quality preventive maintenance program will be performed to maintain water quality in the water system. The process change is strongly recommended by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State to preserve water quality by ensuring persistent disinfection levels exist in the distribution system. Both chlorine and chloramines have been used safely in the United States for many years.

#### What do dialysis patients and providers need to know?

Similar to chloramines, chlorine can harm kidney dialysis patients during the dialysis process if they are not removed before entering the bloodstream.

#### Is it safe to wash open wounds with chlorinated/chloraminated water?

Yes, chlorinated and chloraminated water is completely safe to use on cuts and wounds because no water enters the bloodstream.

#### Is it safe for kidney dialysis patients to drink water containing chlorine and chloramines?

Yes, it is safe for kidney dialysis patients to drink chlorinated and chloraminated water. During the digestive process, chlorinated and chloraminated water is metabolized before reaching the bloodstream. Everyone, including pregnant women, young children and the elderly, can drink, cook and bathe in chlorinated and chloraminated water.

#### What should people with home dialysis machines do to remove chlorine/chloramines?

If using chlorinated or chloraminated water, remember to contact a physician first for proper water treatment recommendations. Often, home dialysis service companies can be helpful in making necessary modifications to equipment.

## Will chlorinated/chloraminated water interact with my medication?

There is no known interactions between chloraminated and chlorinated water and any kind of medication. However, it is recommended you contact your physician for additional information.

## Will boiling remove chlorine and chloramines?

Chlorine is removed by boiling water, adding salt or letting water stand in an open container to dissipate. However, chloramines are not removed by the methods mentioned.

## Resources

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Safe Drinking Water Hotline:1-800-426-4791

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

phone number:1-800-232-4636

National Kidney Foundation

[www.kidney.org/](http://www.kidney.org/)

## Questions?

Please contact the City Customer Service Center at 336.883.3111 or visit us at [www.highpointnc.gov](http://www.highpointnc.gov)