

Form extracted from Version 2.1 Guideline on arrangements to assist medically dependent consumers as published on the Electricity Authority Website
<https://www.ea.govt.nz/>

Notice of Potential Medically Dependent Consumer (MDC) Status

To the Patient

Please pass this form onto your electricity provider.

PART A - PATIENT DETAILS

Patient's name: _____

Patient's date of birth: _____

Patient's contact phone number(s):

_____ (h) _____ (m) _____ (w)

Caregiver's contact phone number(s) – *if different from patient's*:

_____ (h) _____ (m) _____ (w)

Full physical address (*PO Box or RD is not acceptable*) where the patient will reside on discharge (Residence):

Name(s) of electricity account holder(s) at residence where the patient will reside on discharge:

Contact phone number(s) of electricity account holder(s):

_____ (h) _____ (m) _____ (w)

Residence's electricity ICP number (*this can be found on the residence's electricity bill – usually up to 15 characters*):

Residence's electricity account number (*this can be found on the residence's electricity bill*):

Consent: - As the recipient of this medical equipment and a potentially medically dependent consumer, I consent to the information on this form and information on the future status of my dependence on the medical equipment to be shared between the health practitioner(s), electricity retailer(s) and/or the electricity account holder for the domestic residence where I will be residing, for the purpose of ensuring that the electricity retailer is informed of my medical dependence on electrical equipment and my status as a medically dependent electricity consumer. The electricity retailer may use this information to identify residences where electricity disconnection, for whatever reason, may have significant consequences.

Patient signature: _____ Date: _____

and/or

Caregiver signature: _____ Date: _____

PART B - CONFIRMATION THAT ELECTRICITY IS REQUIRED

I certify that _____ (patient's name) with NHI number

_____ is:

- a) using mains electricity dependent critical electrical medical equipment (CEME); and
- b) at some point in the future may be dependent on the CEME to the extent that disconnection may result in loss of life or serious harm. (If so, the patient is a potentially medically dependent consumer (of electricity).

I also certify that the patient listed above has been provided knowledge, training and support, in accordance with appropriate clinical practice:

- a) for the use of the CEME; and
- b) what to do in an emergency, including when the supply of electricity may be interrupted for any reason.

Where:

- a) Critical medical support is defined as support which, in the opinion of a DHB, private hospital or GP, is required to prevent loss of life or serious harm; and
- b) CEME is defined as any equipment supplied or prescribed by a DHB, private hospital or GP, which requires mains electricity to provide critical medical support to a person, and includes other electrical equipment needed to support either the CEME or the treatment regime (e.g. a microwave to heat fluids for renal dialysis).

Note: The patient's electricity retailer may seek advice on the patient's status as a MDC if at any point in the future the patient faces disconnection.

Date: _____

Name of DHB/private hospital/GP:

Name of the health practitioner treating the patient (including designation):

Signature of the health practitioner treating the patient:

OR

Name of another health practitioner, signing on behalf of the health practitioner treating the patient (including designation):

Signature:

Contact number and/or email address of signatory:

Disclaimer: The DHB/private hospital/GP/issuer of this Notice of Potential MDC Status on behalf of the patient, takes no responsibility for any debts incurred by the patient in relation to transactions or arrangements entered into by the patient with the electricity retailer.

ADDITIONAL:

Notice of Potential Medically Dependent Consumer Status (Notice of Potential MDC Status)

The Notice of Potential MDC Status has 2 parts:

Part A – to be completed by the patient/caregiver.

The DHBs, private hospitals and GPs can assist retailers by checking that the patient/caregiver:

- has filled in as much of the form as possible as this will assist his/her retailer to identify the correct account. Specifically, providing a residential address (not a PO Box or RD number), and recording the names of any of the household members who may be the account holder, will be particularly useful;
- understands and has signed the consent portion of the form; and
- understands the importance of:
 - completing the Notice of Potential MDC Status; and
 - giving the Notice of Potential MDC Status to the patient's retailer.

Part B – to be completed by a representative of the DHB, private hospital or GP, and signed by the health practitioner treating the patient (or by another health practitioner signing on behalf of the health practitioner treating the patient).

DHBs, private hospitals and GPs should check that the patient/caregiver has been informed of all relevant aspects of using the CEME including:

- what to do in the case of planned or unplanned electricity outages;
- information on the likely costs associated with operating the CEME and, if appropriate, advising the patient/caregiver that financial assistance may be available from Work and Income;
- advising that if electricity loss occurs, there may be loss of power to the telephone if the only phone in the home requires electricity (relevant if the telephone is needed to call an ambulance in the event of a power outage); and
- discussing whether critical mobility aids (for example wheelchair hoists), may require battery backup.

DHBs, private hospitals and GPs should also ensure that patients are well enough or with sufficient support to effectively communicate with their retailer when discharged from the hospital with CEME (as per Ministry of Health Letter to the Electricity Commission; 18 February 2008).

Non-exhaustive list of critical electrical medical equipment

- Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) machine
- Nasal Continuous Positive Airways pressure machine
- Non-invasive Ventilation (NIV) Bi-level Positive Airway Pressure (BiPAP) machine
- Oxygen concentrator
- Renal dialysis – Automated Peritoneal Dialysis (APD)
- Renal dialysis – Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis (CAPD)
- Renal haemodialysis machine
- Total Parenteral Nutrition
- Ventilator
- Ventricular Assistance Device.

Please be aware that this is a **NON-EXHAUSTIVE** list of CEME.