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Critical Questions for Climate-Ready, Resilient Healthcare Supply Chains



Reality check: The odds of stopping climate change at this point are about the same as pulling an ace from a shuffled deck on your first try. Your job as a supply chain leader is to minimize risk to patient care and staff safety, not gamble with it.

How to use this checklist

For each question, mark: Yes with evidence, In progress, or Gap.

Count your “Yes with evidence” answers.

Supply Chain Data & End-to-End Visibility

Why it matters: Feed AI dirty or biased data, and it spits out dirty or biased answers.

- Can every stakeholder trace a high-risk SKU from raw material to assembly to sterilization to dock delivery to the bedside—instantly? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Is every item in your ERP/MMIS tagged with GS1 UDI/GTIN or NDC and synced daily to the EHR? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Do you cleanse and enrich the item master at least quarterly (duplicates, expired SKUs, bad UNSPSC codes)? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Can clinicians see on-hand, on-order, and in-transit stock in one dashboard? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Are bin-level sensor events (location + temperature) streaming into that same view? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Is your visibility platform truly vendor-agnostic (no supplier or vendor pay-to-play or private equity bias)? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: _____

Predictive Analytics & Supply Chain Stress Testing

Why it matters: Reacting after a flood hits is just triage.

- Do you ingest hazard feeds (NOAA HRRR 15 min, NASA FIRMS 15 min, USGS 5 min) and nightly quality feeds (openFDA, eMDR)? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Have you built a digital twin of suppliers, 3PL lanes, Kanban/PAR nodes, and DCs? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Do you run “what if” drills (wildfire, port strike, drought) at least monthly? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Does your model predict days-to-stock-out with financial- and patient-risk weightings? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Are alerts translated into dollar impact and cancelled-case minutes to drive urgency? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: _____

Supplier / Vendor Network & Diversification

Why it matters: one factory fire shouldn't stop surgery.

- Can you see to at least tier-2 for 80 % of high value SKUs? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Are suppliers scored on climate adaptation plans, energy-/water-risk, and solvency? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Do contracts mandate dual sourcing or pre-qualified alternates for top-risk items? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Have you mapped suppliers in flood zones, fire corridors, or seismic hot spots? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Do you hold mutual aid or inventory pool agreements with neighboring systems? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: _____

Inventory Management, Logistics & "Last Mile"

Why it matters: Buffer days beat backorders.

- Is your emergency buffer sized by clinical criticality—not blanket 14-day rules?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Can you pivot to regional stock transfer within 72 hours? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Do temp-controlled products travel with real-time trackers and excursion alerts?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Are Kanban bins with sensor readers reducing manual counts and mis-picks?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: _____

Supply Chain Data Governance & Accountability

Why it matters: No charter, no budget, no progress.

- Does a cross-functional digital supply chain control tower meet weekly with authority to act? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Is climate resilience baked into C-suite KPIs and capital budget cycles?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Do you maintain a live climate-risk register with owner, mitigation, and review date?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Are board updates quarterly and data-driven (KPIs, near misses, savings)?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: _____



Cybersecurity & Supply Chain Data Integrity

Why it matters: Disasters attract ransomware.

- Are all supply chain APIs mapped to NIST CSF 2.0 controls? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Have you passed SOC 2 Type II or scheduled DNV Advanced Healthcare Cybersecurity certification? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Can every critical integration run on backup power and segmented networks?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: _____

Environmental Sustainability & Carbon Intelligence

Why it matters: Regulators—and Gen Z staff—are watching.

- Do sourcing decisions weigh CO₂e alongside cost and lead-time? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Have you evaluated blockchain traceability for any high-risk SKU set?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Are Scope-3 emissions and waste metrics visible on executive dashboards?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: _____

Workforce & Culture

Why it matters: Technology fails if people freeze.

- Are frontline teams trained annually to execute substitution and cross-site borrow?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Do you have backup staffing plans for smoke events, floods, or transit shutdowns?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Are analysts taught explainable-AI skills to challenge supply chain ML outputs?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: _____



Clinical Continuity & Ethics

Why it matters: Patient safety is the North Star.

- Are substitution protocols co-signed by clinicians for ICU, OR, oncology, dialysis?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Have you drafted triage ethics for extreme shortages (e.g., contrast media)?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Can you switch to a pre-approved kit or drug within four hours of a recall alert?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: ____

Supply Chain Resilience Metrics & Continuous Improvement

Why it matters: What gets measured gets funded.

- Do you track Internal Requisition Fill %, Buffer Days, MTTR, Diversification Index—plus CO₂e? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Are after-action reports logged for every disruption ≥ 6 hours? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Do you retrain predictive risk models quarterly using those events? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Have you run at least one external, unbiased audit (data integrity, cyber, solvency) this year? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: ____

Insurance & Financial Resilience

Why it matters: CFOs respect numbers, not narratives.

- Have you quantified revenue-at-risk for your top 20 supply lines? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Do you hold parametric or catastrophe insurance indexed to climate hazards and informed by resilience KPIs? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Are contingency reserves sized to cover a two-week port closure? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: ____



Regulatory & Community Alignment

Why it matters: conflicting directives paralyze response.

- Does your plan mesh with FEMA, ASPR, and state adaptation frameworks?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Are community partners (EMS, dialysis centers, pharmacies) integrated into drills?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Do you have pre-negotiated FDA and CMS waivers for substitute products in crises?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: _____

Recovery & Learning Loops

Why it matters: yesterday's storm is tomorrow's dataset.

- Do you measure time-to-normal for supply levels and clinical throughput?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Is every disruption converted into new stocking levels or vendor scorecard weights?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Are carbon and cost savings from each mitigation reported to leadership?
☐YWE ☐IP ☐G
- Do you update the climate-risk register after every quarter? ☐YWE ☐IP ☐G

Total YWE: _____

Grand Total YWE: _____

If you scored fewer than 40 solid "Yes" answers, start by closing gaps in **Data & Visibility** and **Predictive Analytics**. Those two pillars unlock everything else!

Need a partner to wire your data feeds, cleanse your item master, inventory data and/or benchmark your KPIs? Schedule a no-cost consultation. Scan QR to get started 

