

New FDA Public Portal to Report Drug Shortages

NABP <news@nabp.pharmacy>

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To: Barron, Karin (DOH) <karin.barron@dc.gov>

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NABP
National Association of
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*Educational, Regulatory,
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**New FDA Public Portal Allows Patients,
Health Care Providers, and Organizations
to Report Drug Shortages**

A portal created by Food and Drug Administration (FDA) allows patients, health care providers, and organizations to check the Drug Shortages Database for current out-of-stock medications and drugs. If a drug is not listed, they can report shortages via the public portal linked on the website. FDA will then contact the manufacturers to assess if the supply meets the demand and potentially take early action to prevent further shortages of specific drugs and medications.

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USP Publishes 2023 Annual Drug Shortages Report

The United States Pharmacopeia (USP) recently published its 2023 report on the economic impact of drug shortages in the US. The *USP Annual Drug Shortages Report: Economic factors underpin 2023 shortages* listed four factors that can impact a medication's risk of shortage: low prices, manufacturing complexity, geographic concentration, and quality concerns. Promethazine hydrochloride, clindamycin, and rocuronium bromide are among the injectable drugs that had a severe risk of shortage one month prior to their reported shortages.

Individuals interested in downloading the *USP Annual Drug Shortages Report* will need to provide an email address on the USP website.

[Visit USP's Website](#)

NABP Wins 2024 APEX Award for *Innovations*' January 2023 Issue

NABP is proud to share that *Innovations*[®], NABP's member magazine, has won a 2024 Awards for Publication Excellence (APEX) Award for its [January 2023 issue, *Navigating Drug Shortages*](#).

Don't miss the latest issues; bookmark the *Innovations* web page in your favorite web browser. Visit the APEX Awards site to learn more about the competition and 2024 awards.

[Check Out APEX's Winners](#)

ISMP Warns That DexmedeTOMIDine May Contain Overlap Labeled as Acetaminophen

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) is alerting health care professionals about intravenous (IV) bags labeled as acetaminophen injections that may contain dexmedeTOMIDine. Produced by Hikma Pharmaceuticals PLC, the IV product has a Canadian label, a different font, and follows [ISMP Canada's](#) tall man lettering (dexmedeTOMidine). US products use different tall man lettering for [dexmedeTOMIDine](#).

ISMP has reached out to FDA and Hikma about the concern. Hikma is conducting an investigation and notifying impacted wholesalers. ISMP urges health care professionals to check their inventory for the infusion bags labeled as acetaminophen with the lot number 24070381 to remove the product until FDA or the wholesaler provides further instructions.

Read the Alert

LAPPA Releases Fact Sheet About *Novel Psychoactive Substances: Medetomidine*

Medetomidine is a veterinary sedative that is unsafe for human consumption and has been increasingly detected in the illicit drug supply since [late 2022](#). The Legislative Analysis and Public Policy Association (LAPPA) has released a fact sheet about medetomidine, noting that it is now a public health concern as the drug is 200 times stronger and has a longer duration of action than xylazine. The organization explains that medetomidine can cause prolonged sedation, slow heart rate (ie, bradycardia), slow breathing, and low blood pressure, although it is not fully understood if the sedative causes other effects in humans. Similar to [xylazine](#), opioid reversal medication will not reverse the effects of the drug. However, according to LAPPA, drug experts are still recommending giving an opioid antagonist medication to individuals suspected of a medetomidine overdose since the drug is often combined with fentanyl.

Find Out More

UF Health and CDC Launch HPP to Help Manage High Blood Pressure

The [University of Florida \(UF\) Health](#), with funding from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is launching the Hypertension Pharmacists' Program (HPP) to connect patients with high blood pressure to a community of pharmacists for personalized care and education. HPP originated from a successful model at the University of

Michigan, which showed significant improvements in blood pressure control. UF Health Jacksonville Office of Community Engagement, UF Health Total Care Clinic-Jacksonville, UF College of Pharmacy, and Panama Pharmacy are working together to replicate the program. HPP is set to launch this summer and will be implemented in predominantly Black populations in southeastern US.

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National Association of Boards of Pharmacy
1600 Feehanville Dr
Mount Prospect, IL 60056