

COVID-19 Response and Guidance Updates

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November 18, 2020

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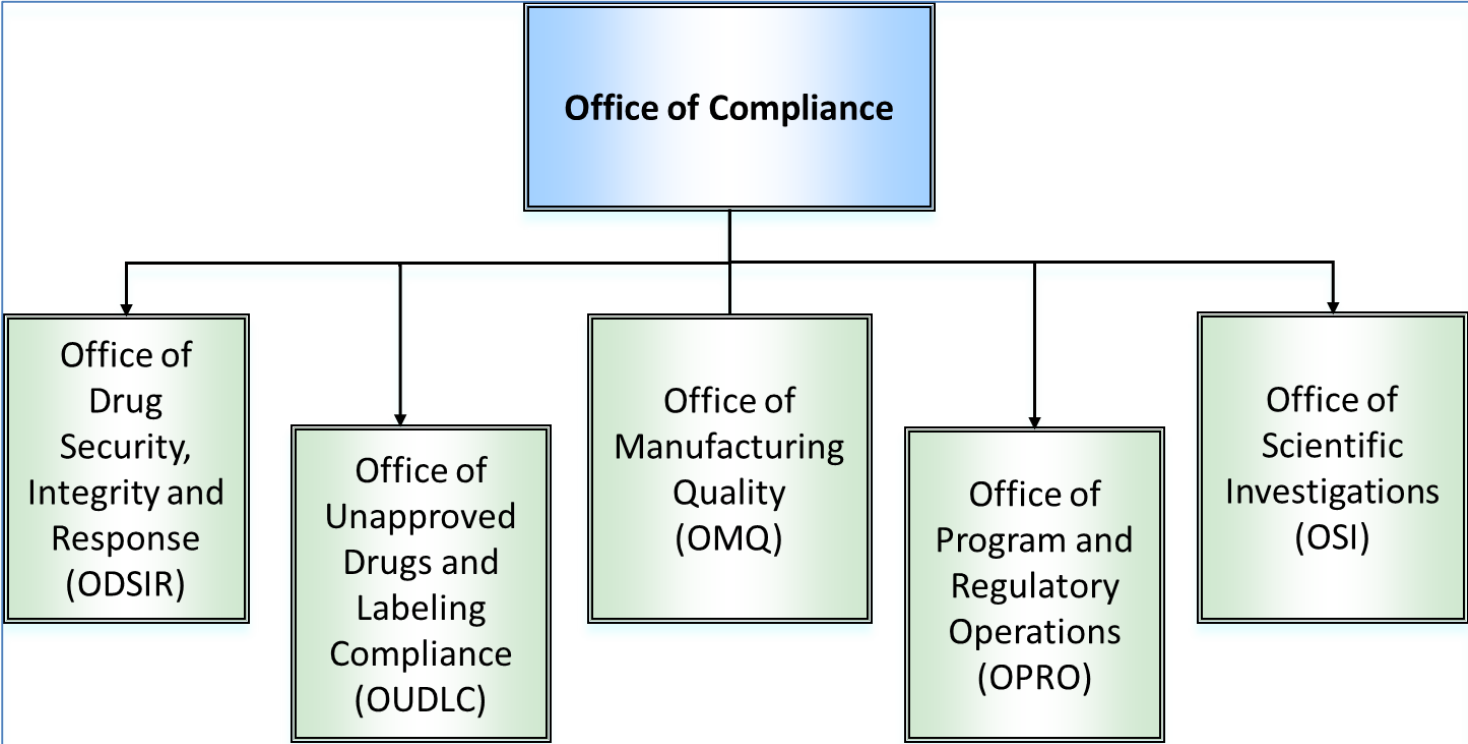
CDER - Office of Compliance



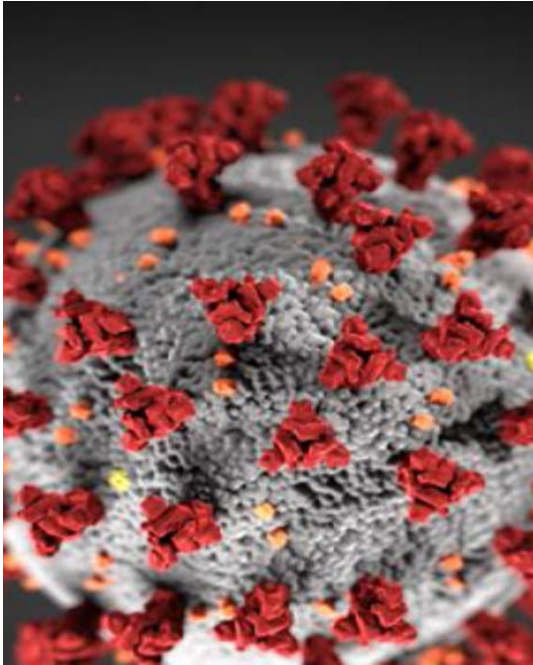
MISSION

To shield patients from poor quality, unsafe and ineffective drugs through proactive compliance strategies and risk-based enforcement action.


CDER - Office of Compliance



Response to the Pandemic



- Working to increase patient access to critically needed medications in shortage
- Protecting patients from fraudulent COVID-19 products
- Protecting the public from poor quality and unsafe hand sanitizers



**Addressing Shortages of
Critical Medications Needed
to Treat Hospitalized
COVID-19 Patients**

Regulatory Discretion

To mitigate shortages of medications used to treat COVID-19 patients, CDER Compliance has issued **more than 35 regulatory discretion decisions.**

- Cisatracurium
- Etomidate
- Midazolam
- Propofol
- Heparin
- Albuterol
- Azithromycin

Temporary Compounding Policies



- 1. Temporary Policy for Compounding of Certain Drugs for Hospitalized Patients by Outsourcing Facilities During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Guidance for Industry**
- 2. Temporary Policy for Compounding of Certain Drugs for Hospitalized Patients by Pharmacy Compounders not Registered as Outsourcing Facilities During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Guidance for Industry**

Comparison of Discretion Policies



Outsourcing Facility

Temporary Enforcement Discretion Related To:

- “Essentially a copy” provision
- 503B bulks list
- CGMP for stability studies/expiration dates

Required Circumstances Include

- Limited to list of drugs
- Hospital first attempts to obtain FDA-approved drugs
- Beyond use date and limited stability testing considerations
- Weekly reporting

Pharmacy Compounders

Temporary Enforcement Discretion Related To:

- “Essentially a copy” provision
- Prescription requirement

Required Circumstances Include

- Limited to list of drugs
- Hospital first attempts to obtain FDA-approved drugs or drugs from Outsourcing Facilities
- No objection by board of pharmacy
- Must identify hospital & COVID-19 treatment
- Hospital to identify patients within one month
- Beyond use date limited
- Reporting of adverse events

Drugs Covered by Discretion Policies



Updated October 13, 2020 - List of Drugs Used for Hospitalized Patients with COVID-19 [formerly “Appendix A”] Now Found on the Web

Products are all aqueous solutions for injection:

Cisatracurium besylate
Dexamethasone sodium phosphate
Dexmedetomidine hydrochloride
Epinephrine
Etomidate
Fentanyl citrate
Furosemide
Hydromorphone hydrochloride

Ketamine hydrochloride
Lorazepam
Midazolam hydrochloride
Morphine Sulfate
Norepinephrine bitartrate
Rocuronium bromide
Vancomycin hydrochloride
Vecuronium bromide



Temporary Compounding Policies

Four Additional Guidances

1. Temporary Policy on Repackaging or Combining Propofol Drug Products During the COVID-10 Public Health Emergency
2. Temporary Policy Regarding Non-Standard PPE Practices for Sterile Compounding by Pharmacy Compounders not Registered as Outsourcing Facilities During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
3. Postmarketing Adverse Event Reporting for Medical Products and Dietary Supplements During a Pandemic
4. Policy for Temporary Compounding of Certain Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer Products During the Public Health Emergency



Protecting Patients and Consumers from Fraudulent COVID-19 Products

Fraudulent COVID-19 Claims

- Market flooded with products making unproven claims
- Products are unlawful and put patients at risk



Corona-Cure Coronavirus Infection Prevention Nasal Spray

\$19.99

ADD TO CART

Buy with **PayPal**

[More payment options](#)

CURRENTLY OUT OF STOCK. EXPECT SHIPMENTS TO BE READY 3/23/2020

Our instant protection nasal spray is designed to protect your vulnerable nasal passages from infection by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus specifically and other viruses in general. The

Fraudulent COVID-19 Claims

The logo for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), consisting of the letters "FDA" in white on a blue square background.

CDER/Compliance Response

- Conducting ongoing surveillance
- Issued **85+** warning letters for products claiming to treat COVID-19
- Issued **10+** warning letters to internet pharmacies
- Vast majority stopped selling products or took down claims

Product Examples

- Chlorine Dioxide
- Colloidal Silver
- CBD
- Copper
- Honey
- Botanical Oils



InfoWars/Alex Jones
Silver Gargle



Seanjari Preeti Womb Healing
COVID19 Cough Syrup

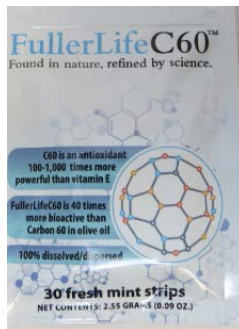


Herbal Amy's Coronavirus
Core Tincture

Examples of Violative Products



Miracle Mineral Solution (MMS)



Carbon60 Mint Strips



CopperTouch Sani-Disc

Federal Civil Enforcement Actions

- **Genesis II Church**
- **Xephyr LLC dba N-Ergetics**
- **White Eagle Native Herbs**



FDA will continue to take action against firms endangering the public health.



Poor Quality and Unsafe Hand Sanitizers

COVID19 Pandemic

- Prompts Surge in Hand Sanitizer Use
- Thousands of new products and manufacturers
- Dozens of new manufacturers producing methanol contaminated hand sanitizers

Drug Registration and Listing



Since March 1, 2020

- More than 4,600 different registrants
- Listed more than 15,000 OTC products with alcohol as active ingredient
- New firms, including many cosmetic companies, distilleries and other first time OTC drug manufacturers



Surge in Hand Sanitizer Imports

55 Gallon Drums



Jugs in the back of a truck



No Inspections Required

Dr. Janet Woodcock:

*“[W]e still face some challenges in ensuring the safety of imported drugs entering our drug supply. Under our current authorities, **foreign-based manufacturers of certain drugs can legally ship drugs to the United States without ever having been inspected by FDA. Drugs in this category typically include OTC monograph drugs This increases the risk of exposing American patients to unsafe or ineffective drugs and requires resource-intensive efforts on FDA’s part to identify and respond to any problems that arise subsequently.**”*

Testimony before the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on December 10, 2019.

Screening at the Border



- Customs and FDA screening hand sanitizer products at the border
- Referring suspect shipments to FDA Labs for further testing

FDA Lab Findings

- Observed methanol ranging from 1% to 80% in many hand sanitizer products from Mexico
- Sub-potent levels of ethanol
- High degree of variability between and within lots of the same product
- Confirmed 1-propanol contamination in a few cases

Serious Adverse Events and Deaths from Methanol Contamination



Yip L, Bixler D, Brooks DE, et al. Serious Adverse Health Events, Including Death, Associated with Ingesting Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers Containing Methanol — Arizona and New Mexico, May–June 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2020;69:1070–1073. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6932e1external_icon

FDA Response

- Recommending recalls
- Notifying the public
- Produced list of potentially dangerous hand sanitizers consumers should not use.
 - <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-updates-hand-sanitizers-consumers-should-not-use>

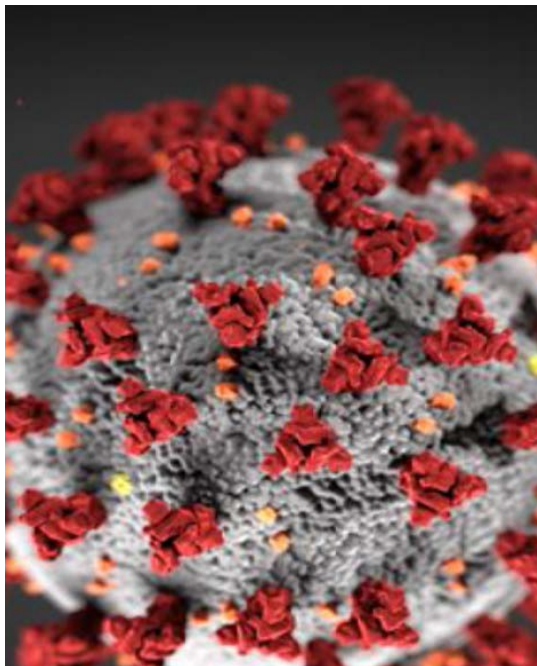
8/12/2020: UPDATE - FDA expands hand sanitizer warnings to include 1-propanol contamination	▼
8/7/2020: UPDATE - FDA Includes Methanol Testing in Temporary Policies for Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers	▼
7/31/2020: UPDATE - FDA continues to find issues with certain hand sanitizer products	▼
7/27/2020 PRESS RELEASE - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Reiterates Warning About Dangerous Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers Containing Methanol, Takes Additional Action to Address Concerning Products	▼
7/2/2020: UPDATE - FDA warns consumers of risk of methanol contamination in certain hand sanitizers	▼
7/2/2020 PRESS RELEASE - FDA Takes Action to Warn, Protect Consumers from Dangerous Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers Containing Methanol	▼
6/19/2020 ALERT - FDA advises consumers not to use hand sanitizer products manufactured by Eskbiochem	▼

FDA Response

- Firms added to import alert 66-78 to prevent future shipments:
https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/cms_ia/importalert_1166.html
- Warning Letters
 - Adulteration
 - Unapproved new drug
 - Misbranding

U.S Pharmacopeia

- Formally requested that USP modify the alcohol/dehydrated alcohol monographs to include identity testing for methanol.
- On September 1, 2020, USP updated its [alcohol](#) and [dehydrated alcohol](#) monographs to specifically require an identity test for methanol.



Additional COVID-19 Guidances

Manufacturing During the Pandemic

FDA

Guidance for Industry Planning for the Effects of High Absenteeism to Ensure Availability of Medically Necessary Drug Products

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)

March 2011
Procedural

OMB Control No. 0910-0675
Expiration Date 05/31/2020 (Note: Expiration date updated 01/29/2019)
See additional PRA statement in section V of this guidance



Contains Nonbinding Recommendations

Resuming Normal Drug and Biologics Manufacturing Operations During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Guidance for Industry

September 2020

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research
Center for Veterinary Medicine

Contains Nonbinding Recommendations

Good Manufacturing Practice Considerations for Responding to COVID-19 Infection in Employees in Drug and Biological Products Manufacturing

Guidance for Industry

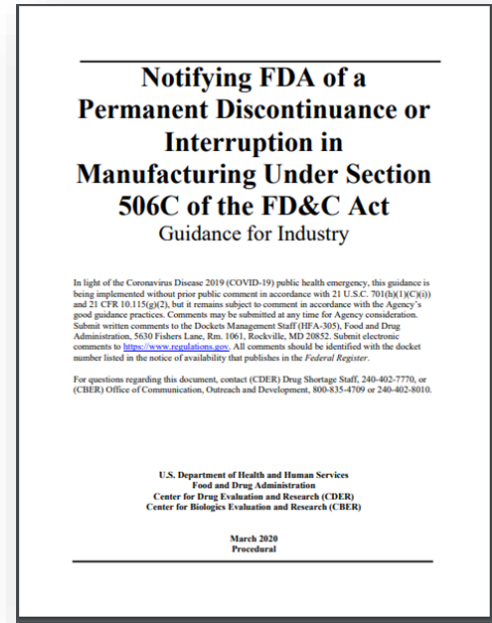
June 2020

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research
Center for Veterinary Medicine



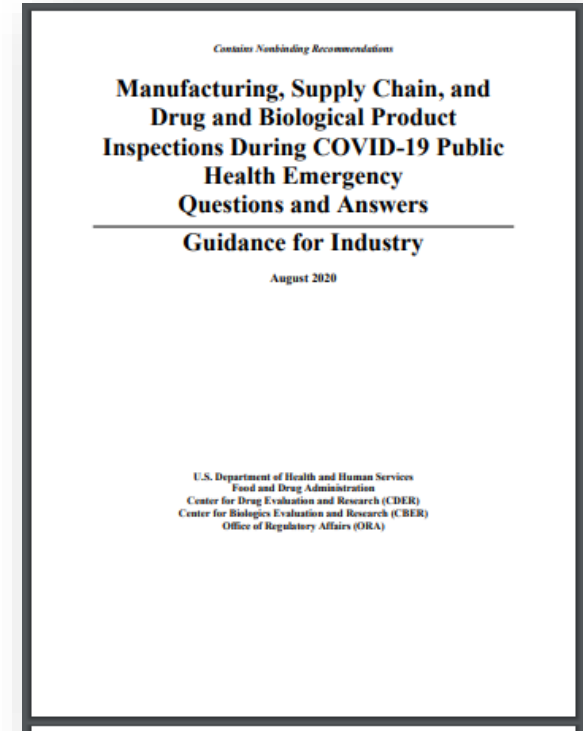
Shortage Reporting

- Must report permanent discontinuance or interruption in manufacturing at least 6 months in advance [or no later than five days after when not foreseeable]
- FDA requests that sudden unexpected spikes in demand also be reported
- Reporting helps prevent or mitigate shortages of such products
- Covered drug and biologic products only
- Who reports?
 - NDAs, ANDAs and BLAs → applicant reports
 - Without NDA or ANDA → drug manufacturer reports



Facility Inspections

- Common queries related to inspections for facilities manufacturing pharmaceutical products and sites involved in the conduct of clinical, analytical, and nonclinical studies
- **Examples of questions:**
 - *How are inspections impacted by COVID-19?*
 - *What types of inspections would be deemed “mission critical”?*
 - *How will FDA ensure the quality of imported products while inspections are limited?*





Control of Nitrosamine Impurities in Human Drugs

Guidance for Industry

This guidance is for immediate implementation.

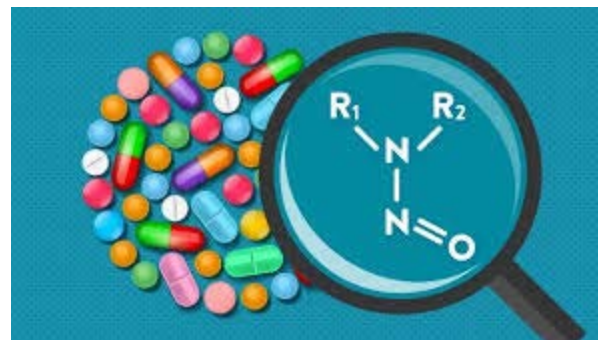
FDA is issuing this guidance for immediate implementation in accordance with 21 CFR 10.115(g)(2). Submit one set of either electronic or written comments on this guidance at any time. Submit electronic comments to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. You should identify all comments with the docket number listed in the notice of availability that publishes in the *Federal Register*.

For questions regarding this document, contact (CDER) Dongmei Lu 240-402-7966.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)

September 2020
Pharmaceutical Quality/ Manufacturing Standards/
Current Good Manufacturing Practice (CGMP)

Nitrosamine Guidance



Nitrosamine Impurities

- NDMA and other nitrosamines are commonly found in low amounts in foods, beverages, cosmetics and water
- Probable human carcinogens
- Recently found in drugs such as angiotensin II receptor blockers (ARBs), ranitidine, nizatidine and metformin



Recommended Acceptable Intake



- Acceptable intake (AI) limits for six nitrosamines
- If ≥ 2 nitrosamines detected and total impurities exceed 26.5 ng/day, contact FDA
- If a different nitrosamine is detected, refer to ICH M7(R1) and contact FDA

Nitrosamine	AI Limit (ng/day)
NDMA	96
NDEA	26.5
NMBA	96
NMPA	26.5
NIPEA	26.5
NDIPA	26.5

Causes of Nitrosamine Impurities



- **General Conditions** = secondary, tertiary or quaternary amines + nitrite salts under acidic reaction conditions
- Contamination in vendor-sourced raw materials
- Recovered solvents, catalysts and re-agents
- Quenching process
- Lack of process optimization and control
- Non-API sources of contamination

Recommendations for Industry



- Conduct risk assessment for nitrosamines for all products
- If any risk is identified, conduct confirmatory testing
- If nitrosamines are detected:
 - conduct root cause analysis, and
 - implement changes to manufacturing process to prevent/reduce nitrosamines.
- Report changes implemented to FDA

Recommended Timeline



- Complete risk assessment for all approved or marketed drug products by March 2021
- Confirmatory testing and submission of changes to drug applications should be completed by September 2023



Thank You