

## NABP Report Explores Risky Dietary Supplements

NABP <news@nabp.pharmacy>

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

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### New NABP Report Explores How Pharmacists Can Safeguard Patients From Risky Dietary Supplements

In the NABP January 2021 Rogue Rx Activity Report, the Association focuses on the risk of tainted dietary supplements to consumers. The report, titled [\*Risky Dietary Supplements: How Pharmacists Can Help Protect Patients\*](#), explores adulterated dietary supplements that enter the marketplace and how pharmacists are well-positioned to provide consumers with information regarding the risks associated with these supplements.

[Read the Full Press Release](#)

### Need CPE? NABP Home Study Webinars Address New Timely Topics

New opportunities to earn Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education-accredited home study continuing pharmacy education (CPE) credit are now available on the NABP website. The latest recorded home study webinars address medication-assisted treatment (MAT), the Institute for Safe Medication

Practices reports and self-assessment tools, and preparing for Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) compounding memorandum of understanding.

To participate, interested individuals must complete the online form available on the Home Study Webinars web page to receive access instructions. Additional details about the webinars, including presenter information, learning objectives, and how to claim CPE credit, are also available. Home study webinars will be continuously added to the Home Study web page.

[Register Now](#)

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## HHS Expands Access to Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder

The United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published the *Practice Guidelines for the Administration of Buprenorphine for Treating Opioid Use Disorder*, which will expand access to MAT by exempting physicians from certain requirements that are needed in order to prescribe buprenorphine to patients with opioid use disorder (OUD).

With opioid-related deaths up 21% from the previous year, the need for treatment services to be more accessible for those most at risk of OUD is significant. HHS [noted](#) that studies have shown that the outcome of a person with OUD are much better with MAT.

With pharmacists on the front lines of the opioid epidemic, NABP continues to raise awareness and take steps in reducing OUD. Promoting pharmacist-provided MAT for patients diagnosed with OUD is the current initiative of NABP President Timothy D. Fensky, RPh, DPh, FACA.

[Learn More About Fensky's Initiative](#)

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## Nationwide Recall Issued for Ketorolac Tromethamine Injection Due to Presence of Particulate Matter

Fresenius Kabi USA is voluntarily recalling a single lot of Ketorolac

Tromethamine Injection, USP, 30 mg/mL, 1 mL fill in a 2 mL amber vial to the user level due to the presence of particulate matter.

Fresenius Kabi has been notifying its distributors and customers and asking them to immediately check stock and discontinue use. Adverse reactions or quality problems experienced with the use of this product may be reported to FDA's MedWatch Adverse Event Reporting program. To date, no adverse event reports have been received for the recalled lot.

[Learn More](#)

## Legitimate Parental Opioid Use Linked With Adolescent Use and Misuse

Legitimate parental prescription opioid use was linked with both adolescent use and misuse, according to a study based on data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Following a review of 15,200 parent-child dyads, researchers from Columbia University identified perceived links between parental opioid use or misuse and the impact it has on adolescents ages 12 to 17 years old. The study suggests that medical use of opioids by parentals is associated with offspring prescription opioid use, but parental misuse is not. Parents need to be educated on the risks of their prescription opioid use on offspring.

The authors suggested that educating families about the safe use of opioid medications and restricting access by adolescents could help reduce adolescent opioid misuse.

[Read the Full Study](#)



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## Support Delivery, Safe Handling of COVID-19 Vaccines

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### New Guidelines, Materials Available to Health Care Providers for Safely Administering COVID-19 Vaccines

New guidelines and materials are available to support health care providers with safely administering the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccine, including safe practice recommendations from the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) and a United States Pharmacopeia (USP) toolkit.

After numerous reports of errors or hazards associated with the administration of COVID-19 vaccines, ISMP is sharing safe practice [recommendations](#).

A new USP toolkit is also available to facilitate operational efficiencies that can help accelerate delivery and support safe handling of COVID-19 vaccines while maintaining quality and ultimately the public's trust.

Download the USP  
Toolkit

### New FDA Guidance to Protect Consumers From Methanol Poisoning

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a new guidance for industry, *Policy for Testing of Alcohol (Ethanol) and Isopropyl Alcohol for Methanol, Including During the Public Health Emergency (COVID-19)*. The guidance is intended to help pharmaceutical manufacturers and pharmacists who engage in drug compounding to avoid using pharmaceutical alcohol contaminated with or substituted with methanol in drug products. FDA noted that methanol is not an acceptable ingredient for any drug product and should not be used.

[Read the Guidance](#)

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## Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – Are You Eligible?

Opportunities to apply for funding under the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) are available. RCORP, an initiative by the Health Resources and Services Administration, is a multi-year program aimed to help reduce substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder (OUD), in rural, high risk communities. The overall goal of RCORP is to expand and strengthen prevention, treatment for OUD, and make recovery services more accessible for rural individuals.

Applicants who are eligible include domestic public or private, non-profit or for-profit entities, including faith-based and community-based organizations, and federally-recognized tribes and tribal organizations.

[Is My Practice Eligible?](#)

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## PTCB Names New Members to its Board of Governors

The Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) named Christopher W. Crank, MS, PharmD, BCPS, executive vice president of the Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists (ICHSP), and Mark Glasper, chief executive officer (CEO) of the Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA), to the PTCB Board of Governors. Crank will serve as chair and Glasper as treasurer. Both members

replace retiring former ICHP Executive Director Scott Meyers, MS, RPh, FASHP, and former MPA CEO Larry Wagenknecht, RPh, who were PTCB founding Board members.

[Learn More](#)

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## Surgery Patients Receive More Opioids in the US Than in Other Countries

Patients in the US are prescribed a disproportionately higher amount of opioids after surgeries compared to surgery patients in other countries, according to a new study. The study, published in the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*, reviewed data from 2,024 surgery patients and found that 83% of US patients without pain were prescribed opioids, compared with 8.7% of non-US patients without pain. The authors concluded that US patients are prescribed more amounts of opioids at higher rates regardless of the severeness of their post-surgical pain. The authors recommend that more efforts are made toward ensuring that opioid prescriptions are tailored to patients' needs.

[Learn More](#)

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## Educate Your Patients on Safe Acetaminophen Use This Cold and Flu Season

Fortunately, rates of cold and flu activity have been low so far in 2021, but it is still important to make sure patients understand safe use of acetaminophen during this time. Seven in 10 patients will use over-the-counter medicines to treat their cold and flu symptoms, and research shows that consumers do not always know that taking two medicines with the same ingredient could be harmful.

Health care providers are the primary sources of relaying this information to patients when it comes to the medicine they are taking. Health care providers are encouraged to use the Know Your Dose Campaign's *Cold and Flu Season*

Communications Toolkit to help educate patients on how to safely use medicines that contain acetaminophen.

Help Educate Patients



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