



**NJAFP 2024 Resolution #6**  
**Proposed by Nicole Henry-Dindial, MD**

**More Specific Pharmacy Communication for Unavailable Medications.**

- 1 **Whereas:** pharmacy claims of shortages of medications are not always due to widespread supply  
2 issues; and  
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- 4 **Whereas:** larger pharmacies such as CVS and Walgreens have their own corporate medication  
5 formularies and/ or contracted suppliers which have resulted in the standardized practice of  
6 limiting dispensed medications to only those available to said pharmacy's own formularies; and  
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- 8 **Whereas:** the chain store pharmacists will inform patients that the medication is unavailable and  
9 request a substitute medication or have patient switch classes in order that the patient will  
10 continue to use a medication that is available through their pharmacy; and  
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- 12 **Whereas:** failure of these pharmacy corporate formularies to include medications approved by a  
13 patient's insurance company formulary creates a disruption in care or barrier to patient access to  
14 medication, now therefore be it  
15
- 16 **RESOLVED:** that pharmacies be required to use specific language that will make it clear to  
17 patrons the reason they are unable to fill their prescribed medication. The language should  
18 specifically replace the generic "no longer available" response with more specific reason  
19 including categories: A/ item not available because not on pharmacy's specific formulary, B/ not  
20 on patient's insurance formulary or C/ due to supplier issue ( i.e., back order), and be it further  
21
- 22 **RESOLVED:** that if a medication is unavailable due to supply reason, the affected pharmacy be  
23 required to be transparent regarding if item is on wide spread back order or if just specific to that  
24 chain pharmacy's supplier. and be it further  
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- 26 **RESOLVED:** that pharmacies, who dispense medication only on their formulary or from an  
27 exclusive contracted supplier, be required to publicly display to all patrons that it is their policy  
28 to dispense medications only on their formulary and by their contracted supplier which may  
29 result in shortages specific only to said pharmacy, and be it further  
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- 31 **RESOLVED:** that New Jersey Academy of Family Physicians pursue legislative and regulatory  
32 investigation into the supply chain shortages and practices of the national pharmacies who have  
33 corporate formularies that limit the available prescription medications they will dispense to  
34 patient, and be it further  
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36 **RESOLVED:** that the NJAFP present a resolution or similar request to the American Academy  
37 of Family Physicians seeking advocacy for legislative and regulatory investigation into the  
38 supply chain shortages and practices of the national pharmacies who have corporate formularies  
39 that limit the available prescription medications they will dispense to patient

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41 References:

42 1. [CVS Caremark Announces Formulary for 2022 \(formularywatch.com\)](https://www.formularywatch.com/news/2021/12/15/cvs-caremark-announces-formulary-for-2022)