



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
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- 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
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- 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 widespread back order or if just specific to that
24 chain pharmacy’s supplier, and be it further
25
- 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)