

Vizient Update: COVID-19



March 25, 2020

Counterfeit, Price Gouging and Gray Market Activity Escalates

FBI Issued a White Notice on 3/23/2020 regarding "Criminals Exploiting COVID-19 Outbreak for Financial Gain through Procurement and Consumer Fraud"

- Vizient has put a process in place to vet suppliers offering supplies
- Vizient will publish a list with the offerings of all suppliers that are offering supplies that have the appropriate registration with FDA and/or NIOSH
- The FBI White Notice will be available on the website which provides facilities with the reporting instructions if you think you have been a victim
- In order for Vizient to contract with a supplier, we require the following up-front information from a supplier
 - A copy of the Establishment Registration Number or Firm Establishment Number as assigned by the FDA
 - A copy of the Device Listing along with the Regulation Number of the specific device
- Both of the above documents can be printed in pdf form directly from the FDA's website. Without this information, we are unable to determine the supplier is properly registered and the device is available for commercialization by the specific supplier. Lack of this basic documentation is a "red flag" of potential gray market activity.

Vizient Pharmacy Update:

- Chloroquine: All suppliers are on allocation at all distributors and Vizient is working with all suppliers to increase production. Bayer will donate 3 million tablets of Resochin (chloroquine phosphate) by the end of March.
- Hydroxychloroquine: All suppliers are on allocation at all distributors and Vizient is working with all suppliers to increase production. Teva, Mylan and Novartis have additional suppliers projected to make over 100 million doses before the end of May.
- Metered Dose Inhalers (MDI): Due to safety risk and infection control of using nebulizers for COVID-19 patients, MDIs of all types are beginning to be put on allocation at all distributors. Vizient is working with all MDI suppliers to increase production and the Vizient Center for Pharmacy Practice Excellence is finalizing a full report on best clinical practices and where and how nebulizers can be appropriated.

- Actemra: Primarily used in rheumatoid arthritis, it has experienced a significant spike in purchasing since being identified as having off label use for treating COVID-19. Genentech has stated there are no supply issues and there is enough volume to cover the current patients. Genentech is going to work with the federal government on making additional product available. If Vizient members have issues ordering, please contact Genentech at (800) 551-2231 or go to www.gene.com/covid19.
- Vizient is continuing to monitor products that are now being utilized by providers to manage the symptoms and impact of COVID-19 as well as essential medications that hospitals rely upon for the delivery of patient care. This includes daily monitoring of fill rates and/or allocation changes.