Brand Name & Generics

When a drug is in shortage, the total supply of all versions of the product, both brand name and generic, cannot meet the current demand.



Patients at Risk

Oncology medications have experienced significant shortages.
But other medications are also affected.
Common drugs in shortage include:



Adderall



Saline



Antibiotics



Lidocaine



BIG QUESTIONS

What is a Drug Shortage?



A drug shortage occurs when demand or projected demand for a drug within the United States exceeds supply.



Policy Solutions

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act enhanced FDA's ability to identify, prevent and mitigate possible drug shortages by expanding the notification requirement.

Solutions to address drug shortages require FDA, Congress and manufacturers to work together.

Reporting Shortages

The FDA and other tracking organizations identify and communicate which drugs are considered in shortage. Manufacturers must notify the FDA of:



Changes in the production of certain drugs



A discontinuation or disruption six months in advance

