

WARNING: SERIOUS THREAT TO PATIENT ACCESS

BACKGROUND

On November 17, 2017 the New Hampshire Board of Pharmacy released a statement requiring that your doctor's office, in which you get your infusion treatments, comply with United States Pharmacopeia Chapter 797 (USP 797) pharmacy standards or ***discontinue infusion therapy in their office.***

WHY IS THIS A PROBLEM?

- These pharmacy standards will require doctors' offices to purchase and maintain very expensive commercial-grade equipment used in pharmacy clean rooms. It's unnecessary and financially infeasible.
- Hundreds of millions of infusions have been prepared and delivered in doctor's offices across the country without incident. As long as your healthcare providers continue to prepare your infusions using aseptic technique and in accordance with the manufacturer's labeling, patient safety is not a concern.
- Applying these pharmacy standards to your doctor's office may actually be harmful to you if your access to therapy is disrupted and/or delayed, rather than improve safety.

HOW THIS AFFECTS YOU AS A PATIENT

- If the decision to enforce these pharmacy standards in your doctor's offices is not reversed you may have to get your infusions in the hospital instead of the doctor's office or local infusion center. Most doctor offices will not be able to continue treating patients like yourself with complex chronic illnesses who desperately need their medications and cannot afford their treatments to be interrupted.
- This will likely increase your out-of-pocket costs for receiving infusions, as the hospital is the most expensive site of care. Transitioning your treatment to a hospital will take some time, which could disrupt and/or your care.
- Some insurance companies do not cover the cost of infusion treatments in hospital settings, which could leave patients like yourself without an accessible site of care.
- **Any** disruptions in care can increase the physical, emotional, and financial burden of your condition.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

- We need you to take a stand and voice your opposition by sending letters to your elected officials at infusioncenter.org/NHhealth.
- A template letter is provided for you, so you don't have to start from scratch. However, the body of the letter is editable and it is important that you send a letter in your voice.
- Explain your unique situation and how transitioning to a hospital will impact you physically, emotionally, and financially.
- Additionally, explain that you have been treated in the office setting without issue; that being forced to transition to the hospital is not in your best interest; and, that it will negatively impact your medical care.
- Request that the state legislature support Senate Bill 333, especially the amendment that modifies the state's definition of compounding.