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Snapshot document shares data on pharmacy compounding

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (September 15, 2021) — Pharmacy compounding plays a critical role not only in Americans' healthcare, but in the economic health of communities across the country. Those are some takeaways from the first-ever "Snapshot of Pharmacy Compounding in America 2021," released today by the Alliance for Pharmacy Compounding.

Some key statistics:

- During the pandemic, 67 percent of compounding pharmacies have prepared hand sanitizer for consumer use.
- 35 percent of compounding pharmacies are administering Covid-19 vaccines.
- 43 percent are licensed in and ship medications to more than one state.
- Almost 40 percent employ more than a dozen people.
- 77% of owners say **compounded hormones are the most common type of compounded preparation they dispense**, followed by dermatology preparations and animal medication.
- 87 percent of compounding pharmacies also do traditional, retail dispensing.

The *Snapshot* is based on a new report from the Center for Business Research at the University of Mary Washington (Fredericksburg, Va.), commissioned by APC, that compiled data from more than 725 pharmacy compounding professionals across the country. The "2021 National Pharmacy Compounding Demographics Study" was also released today.

APC leaders say they plan to share the report and *Snapshot* with state and federal regulators and lawmakers.

You can download the full report, "2021 National Pharmacy Compounding Demographics Study" and the infographic, "Snapshot of Pharmacy Compounding in America 2021" at A4PC.org/profile.

Reporters are welcome to join APC's live briefing via Zoom on September 15 at 4:00pm EDT. Visit <u>A4PC.org/snapshot</u> for details and to register.

Quotes and background information are on the next page.

QUOTES

Attributable to APC President Michael Blaire of Scottsdale, Ariz.:

"Pharmacy compounding serves millions of patients in this country every day. We help those patients get back the joy of living. It's important that our elected officials and regulators understand the impact of pharmacy compounding in the American healthcare economy."

Attributable to APC Chief Executive Officer Scott Brunner, CAE:

"Details about the wide use of pharmacy compounding have been hard to come by in recent years. There is a paucity of reliable information about the business and practice of pharmacy compounding."

"This *Snapshot* provides some definition for the profession here and now — how it's structured, what compounders are doing in their businesses, and yes, what are the challenges they're facing. "It's a level of helpful detail that we've not had in several years."

Attributable to Dr. Lance Gentry, PhD, Center for Business Research, University of Mary Washington:

"The data paints an inspiring story of American entrepreneurship overcoming obstacles. This study discovered how small entrepreneurs across America helped address the Covid-19 pandemic."

"In addition to administering vaccines, we found that many of these compounding pharmacies created FDA-authorized hand sanitizer to help with the increased demand, and some even compounded drugs for hospitals under temporary FDA guidance to help with the shortages caused by this pandemic."

BACKGROUND

What is pharmacy compounding?

Pharmacy compounding refers to the process by which pharmacists create a customized medication, most often from pure ingredients, for an individual patient with a prescription. Pharmacists' ability to compound medications from pure ingredients is authorized in federal law for good reason: Manufactured drugs don't come in strengths and dosage forms that are right for everyone, and prescribers need to be able to prescribe custom-made medications when, in their judgment, a manufactured drug is not the best course of therapy for a human or animal patient.

About APC

The Alliance for Pharmacy Compounding is the voice for pharmacy compounding, representing compounding pharmacists and technicians in both 503A and 503B settings, as well as prescribers, educators, researchers, and suppliers. Every day, APC members play a critical role in patients' lives, preparing essential, custom medications that are unavailable elsewhere for a range of health conditions, including autism, oncology, dermatology, ophthalmology, pediatrics, women's health, animal health, and others. Learn more at A4PC.org.

The Center for Business Research at the University of Mary Washington conducted the survey with assistance from APC supporters Letco, Medisca and PCCA.