

## March 4, 2020: Monitoring the Ongoing Spread of Novel COVID-19 Coronavirus

AmerisourceBergen and our global businesses are highly engaged during the ongoing spread of the novel COVID-19 “coronavirus.” As an active participant in the global pharmaceutical supply chain, we’re engaged with government and healthcare officials as these agencies and experts closely monitor the spread of COVID-19.

We have business continuity plans that include our global workforce and our teams are in daily communications with manufacturers, monitoring inventory levels and customer purchasing behavior for any potential impact to the product supply chain.

### March 4, 2020 Updates:



**On March 3,** India’s Directorate General of Foreign Trade [announced](#) it was restricting 26 APIs and formulations until further notice. While this is certainly impactful to the pharmaceutical supply chain, we do not expect this to have an immediate impact on product availability. Typically, generics manufacturers keep between 6 - 8 months of finished goods and API on hand. Brand and specialty manufacturers are typically less dependent on operations in China and India for manufacturing.

Additionally, AmerisourceBergen is increasing days-on-hand for IV fluids and some generic injectables to support our acute care customers.

We will continue to place allocation-driven safeguards on products in high demand to ensure stable availability and responsible purchasing behavior.

**On February 28:** A pharmaceutical manufacturer notified the FDA of a shortage of a product which is in shortage due to a site affected by COVID-19 and a subsequent issue with manufacturing an active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) used in the drug. The drug **has alternatives that can be used by patients**. This product is not currently on AmerisourceBergen’s PRxO Generics formulary.



**Monitoring and Securing Inventory:** Along with proactively soliciting updates from manufacturers and using allocation processes to stabilize the supply chain, AmerisourceBergen’s inventory and replenishment teams are diligently monitoring ordering activity and inventory levels. Right now, allocations have been placed on products like personal protective equipment (PPE) and supportive care items, and will likely be placed on items impacted by the API restriction initiated by India.

**In case of emergency in the United States:** In the event of a business disruption or pandemic situation, AmerisourceBergen has active business continuity plans (BCPs) designed to help us to continue to operate critical business functions, such as processing customer orders, maintaining regulatory compliance and distributing goods and supplies to customers and patients. In the past, AmerisourceBergen has worked closely with government agencies to receive clearance to deliver life-saving medications, even in times of emergencies that limit our normal ability to fulfill shipments. Should COVID-19 lead to logistics issues of this nature, we would work with Healthcare Ready, government and health officials to fulfill deliveries of medications to the best of our ability.

We will continue to update you as needed as the situation evolves. With questions, please contact your AmerisourceBergen representative.