

## **National Home Infusion Foundation USP <800> Readiness Survey**

### **Background**

The National Home Infusion Foundation (NHIF) was interested in determining the plans that home infusion providers have to come into compliance with the new USP Chapter <800> Hazardous Drugs- Handling in Healthcare Settings. The new standard, which goes into effect July 1, 2018, requires healthcare providers that handle hazardous drugs to comply with the standard in order to protect healthcare workers, patients and the environment from contamination.

### **Executive Summary**

A convenience survey was administered to the NHIA home infusion membership (n≈800) using Survey Monkey from January 25, 2017 to February 9, 2017. Sixty-nine surveys were completed for a return rate of 8.6 percent. Survey specialists indicate that a 10-15 percent return rate for electronic surveys is average and acceptable. Even though the return rate for this survey was less than ten percent, the results will assist in determining a strategy that will best serve the NHIA membership in becoming compliant with USP <800> Hazardous Drugs- Handling in Healthcare Settings. The survey included seven questions, of which two were demographic in nature with the remaining questions focusing on the handling of hazardous drugs. The following are the results from the survey.

Analysis of the survey demographic data (Tables 1, 2 and 3) showed that more than half (56.5%) of the respondents are classified as a Pharmacy Manager or Pharmacist in Charge followed by Chief Executive/President/General Manager making up 23.1% of the respondents. The respondents were split between hospital-affiliated sites (55.1%), and nonhospital-affiliated providers (46.4%). Nonhospital-affiliated respondents included Independent Proprietors (20.3%), Limited Liability Corporations (17.4%), and Public Traded Corporations (5.8%).

As shown in Table 4, most (60.9%) of the respondents compound hazardous drugs daily or several times a week, while 10.1% of the respondents indicate they never compound hazardous drugs. When asked about their current state of compliance with Chapter <800> Hazardous Drugs – Handling in Healthcare Settings, 84.1% of the respondents indicate they meet some, but not all the requirements in the Chapter (Table 5). Respondents' plans for becoming compliant were mixed and varied with most (62.3%) planning to provide new employee education and training (Table 6). Respondents (46.8%) also plan to make structural changes in their cleanroom facility. Other areas of focus are changes to storage of hazardous drugs (47.8%), changes to decontamination, disinfection and cleaning practices (44.9%) and implementation of a medical surveillance program (20.3%). Unfortunately, some respondents (14.49%) indicate they do not plan to come into compliance and will stop providing hazardous drugs to home infusion patients. As shown in Table 7, the expense related to making structural changes to become compliant varied among respondents. More than a third (36.2%) of the respondents could not put a dollar amount on the renovations needed for compliance, while 16% said they expect to invest more than \$150,000 to implement their plans.

As noted in the demographic data, more than half of the respondents work for a hospital owned or affiliated home infusion pharmacy. To better understand hospital pharmacy compounding habits and plan for compliance with Chapter <800> Hazardous Drugs – Handling in Healthcare Settings, additional data analysis was conducted. As revealed in Table 9, 68.41 percent of hospital-affiliated respondents compound hazardous drugs daily or several times a week. Three (7.9%) of the hospital-affiliated respondents indicate they do not plan to come into compliance and will stop providing hazardous drugs to home infusion patients.

Almost half (47.8%, n=33) of the respondents indicate they plan to make structural changes to their cleanroom facility to assist in becoming compliant with Chapter <800> Hazardous Drugs – Handling in Healthcare Settings (Table 6). To better understand this group of respondents additional analysis was conducted. As expected, a high percent (81.8%) of this group compound hazardous drugs daily or several times a week (Table 10). The results from the “category” of home infusion pharmacy respondents who indicate they plan to make structural changes to their cleanroom facility include Publicly Traded Corporation (75.0%), Independent Proprietor (64.3%), Hospital Affiliated (42.1%), and Limited Liability Corporation (41.7%), as shown in Table 11.

Ten (14.5%) of the respondents indicate they do not plan to come into compliance and will stop providing hazardous drugs to home infusion patients. Further analysis of this data, as observed in Table 12, shows that three (30.0%) of these respondents already do not compound hazardous drugs and four (40.0%) compound hazardous drugs a few times a month.

The last question in the survey asked how NHIA can best support home infusion providers in preparing for the implementation of USP Chapter <800>. As shown in Table 8, most of the respondents were in favor of the suggestions made in the survey which included the following: conduct live educational webinars, provide gap analysis tools, print continuing education articles in INFUSION magazine, and offer live education sessions at the NHIA Annual Conference.

Questions regarding this report can be directed to Connie Sullivan, R.Ph., VP of Research at [connie.sullivan@nhia.org](mailto:connie.sullivan@nhia.org).

# USP <800> Readiness Survey

## Survey Data Tables

The result from each survey question is included in this document and organized into the following three sections:

- I. Respondent Demographics
- II. Plans for Compliance with USP <800> Hazardous Drugs - Handling in Healthcare Settings
- III. Additional Data Analysis

### I. Respondent Demographics

Table 1. Respondents' Role in the Infusion Operation

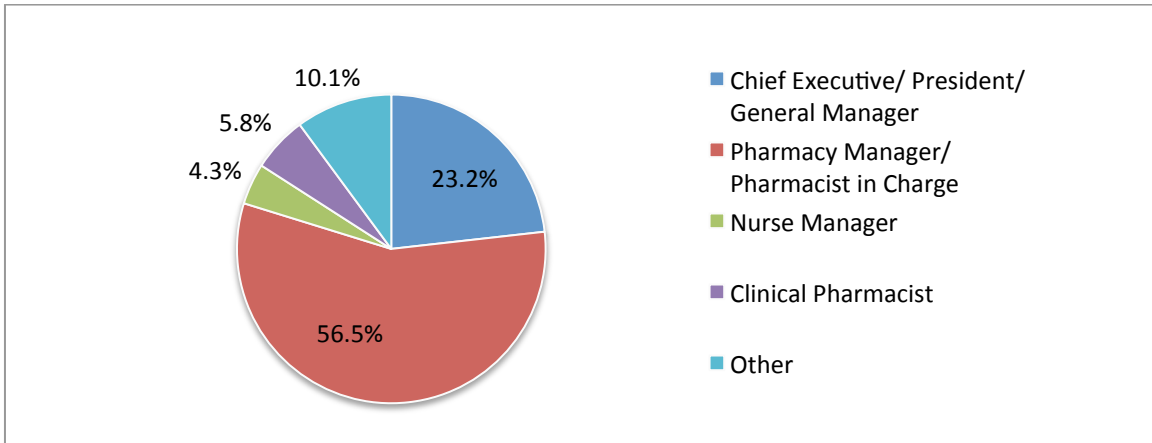


Table 2. Category That Describes the Home Infusion Pharmacy the Respondents Works For

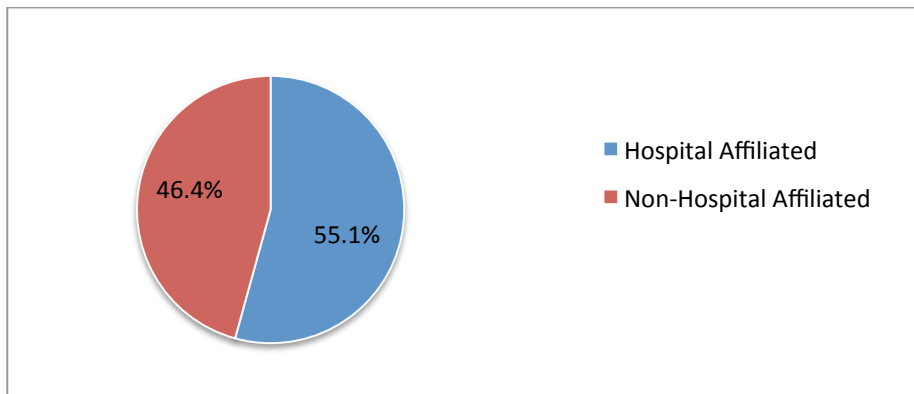


Table 3. Category Responses Describing the Home Infusion Pharmacy Provider Type

Which category below best describe the home infusion pharmacy you work for?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Hospital owned or affiliated	55.1%	38
Independent proprietor	20.3%	14
Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) that is not publicly traded	17.4%	12
Publicly Traded Corporation	5.8%	4
Other	1.4%	1

II. Plans for Compliance with USP <800> Hazardous Drugs - Handling in Healthcare Settings

Table 4. How Often the Respondents' Pharmacy Compounds Hazardous Drugs

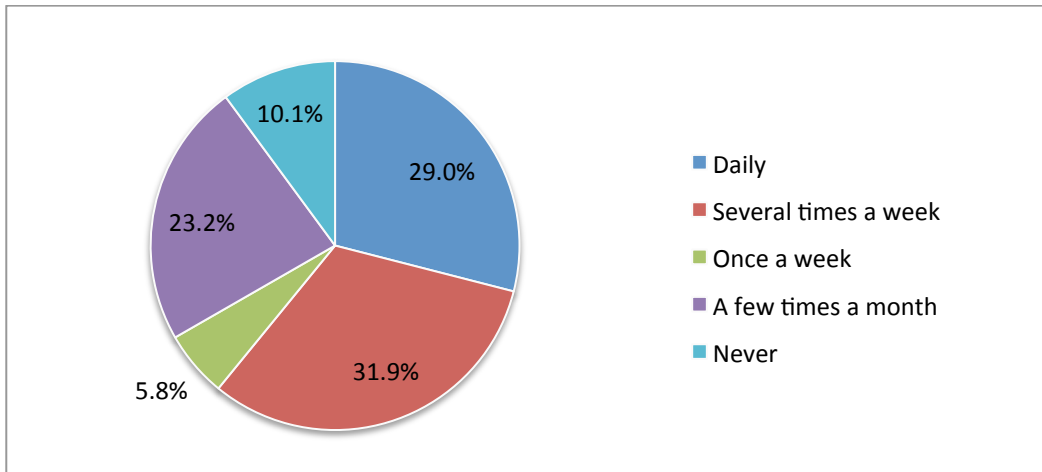


Table 5. The Category that Best Describes the Pharmacy’s Current State of Compliance With Chapter <800> Hazardous Drugs – Handling in Healthcare Settings

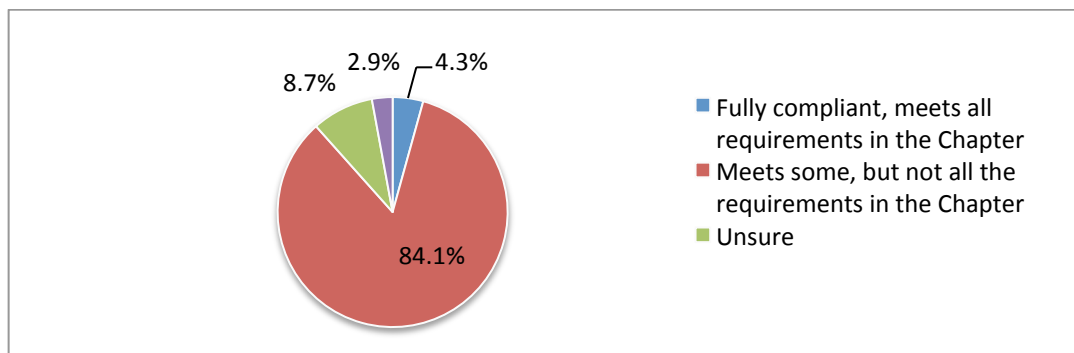


Table 6. Plans for Becoming Compliant with Chapter <800> Hazardous Drugs – Handling in Healthcare Settings

What are your plans for becoming compliant with Chapter <800> Hazardous Drugs - Handling in Healthcare Settings? (Choose all that apply.)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Make facility structural changes	47.8%	33
Modify our compounding practices.	46.4%	32
Employee education and training.	62.3%	43
Change the supplies and equipment used	33.3%	23
Medical surveillance program.	20.3%	14
Modify our deactivation, decontamination, cleaning and disinfecting practices.	44.9%	31
We plan to change the supplies and equipment used to administer hazardous drugs to patients at home.	27.5%	19
Change hazardous drugs storage and handling	47.8%	33
Will stop providing hazardous drugs to home infusion patients	14.5%	10
Other	13.0%	9

Table 7. If you plan to make structural changes to your facility to come into compliance with USP Chapter <800>, how much do you expect to spend in renovations?

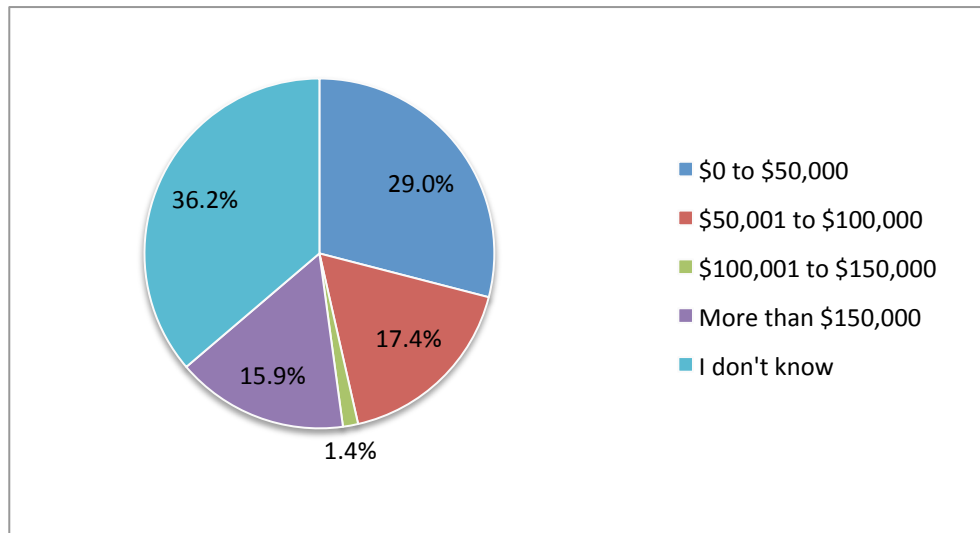


Table 8. How can NHIA best support home infusion providers in preparing for the implementation of USP Chapter <800>?

Answer Choices	Percent	n
Conduct live educational webinars	82.6%	57
Gap analysis tools	71.0%	49
Print continuing education articles in INFUSION Magazine	75.4%	52
Live education sessions at the NHIA Annual Conference	63.8%	44
Other	5.8%	4

### III. Additional Data Analysis

#### A. Hospital Owned or Affiliated Infusion Pharmacies

More than half (55.1%, n=38) of the respondents work for a hospital owned or affiliated home infusion pharmacy. To better understand the compounding habits and plan for compliance with Chapter <800> Hazardous Drugs – Handling in Healthcare Settings, additional data analysis was conducted, as shown in Table 9.

Table 9. How often does your pharmacy compound hazardous drugs?

Data from Respondents Who Represent a Hospital Owned or Affiliated Pharmacy (n=38)

Answer Choices	Percent	n
Daily (Each day the pharmacy is open for regular business.)	31.6%	12
Several times a week	36.8%	14
Once a week	2.6%	1
A few times a month	21.1%	8
Monthly or less	0.0%	0
Never	7.9%	3
Total		38

#### B. Respondents Planning to Make Facility Improvements

Almost half (47.8%, n=33) of the respondents indicate they plan to make structural changes to their cleanroom facility to assist in becoming compliant with Chapter <800> Hazardous Drugs – Handling in Healthcare Settings. To better understand this group of respondents, the following additional analysis was conducted (Table 10 and 11).

Table 10. How often does your pharmacy compound hazardous drugs?

Respondents who plan to make structural changes to their cleanroom facility

Answer Choices	Percent	n
Daily (Each day the pharmacy is open for regular business.)	45.5%	15
Several times a week	36.4%	12
Once a week	0.0%	0
A few times a month	18.2%	6
Monthly or less	0.0%	0
Never	0.0%	0
Total		33

Table 11. Respondents (n=33) who plan to make structural changes to their cleanroom facility. The “category” that best describes the home infusion pharmacy they work for. The percent from each category that plan to make structural changes to their cleanroom facility.

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Total in Category</b>	<b>Plan to make structural Changes</b>	<b>Percent who plan to make structural changes</b>
Hospital Owned or Affiliated	38	16	42.1%
Independent Proprietor	14	9	64.3%
Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) that is not publicly traded	12	5	41.7%
Not for Profit Organization	0	0	0.0%
Publicly Traded Corporation	4	3	75.0%
Other	1	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>33</b>	

**C. Respondents Not Planning to Come into Compliance with Chapter <800>**

Table 12. Ten (14.5%) of the respondents indicate they do not plan to come into compliance and will stop providing hazardous drugs to home infusion patients. How often do these pharmacies compound hazardous drugs?

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>n</b>
Daily (Each day the pharmacy is open for regular business.)	10.0%	1
Several times a week	10.0%	1
Once a week	10.0%	1
A few times a month	40.0%	4
Monthly or less	0.0%	0
Never	30.0%	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>