An aerial view of a modern hospital building with a large glass facade and a central courtyard. A taxi is parked in the foreground, and several people are walking in the courtyard. The building has multiple stories and a complex architectural design.

Understanding and Minimizing the Impact of Current Drug Shortages

Erin R. Fox, PharmD, BCPS, FASHP



DISCLOSURE

- This presentation represents my own opinions.
- University of Utah Drug Information Service receives some funding from Vizient™ to provide drug shortage content.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Explain current trends in drug shortages and the most recent data on causes of drug shortages.
- Describe how recent manufacturing and drug quality trends relate to drug shortages.
- Evaluate progress towards drug shortage solutions.
- Identify best practices for minimizing the impact of drug shortages.

NATIONAL SHORTAGES AND UNIVERSITY OF UTAH DRUG INFORMATION SERVICE

- UUDIS provides drug shortage content to ASHP and Vizient™
- Public website at www.ashp.org/shortages
 - Partners since 2001
 - Receive voluntary reports submitted via web
 - Collaboration is key to success
 - Frequent communication with FDA drug shortage team

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN WEBSITES

ASHP

- www.ashp.org/shortage
- Drugs impacting clinical practice (biologics, devices, dosage forms)
- How to access
- Frequent updates
- Alternatives, safety

FDA

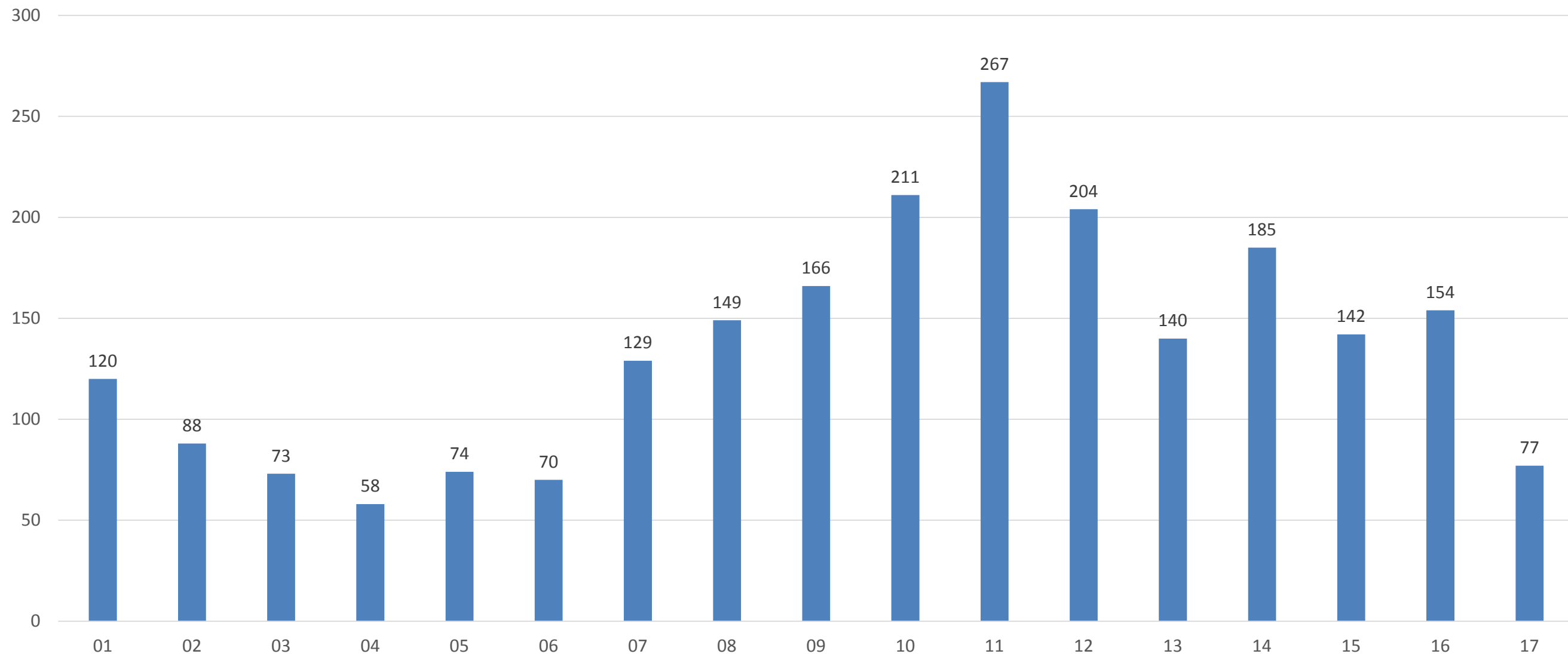
- www.fda.gov/cder
- Fewer products
- No biologics or devices
- Information from manufacturer

<https://www.ashp.org/Drug-Shortages/Current-Shortages/FDA-and-ASHP-Drug-Shortages>



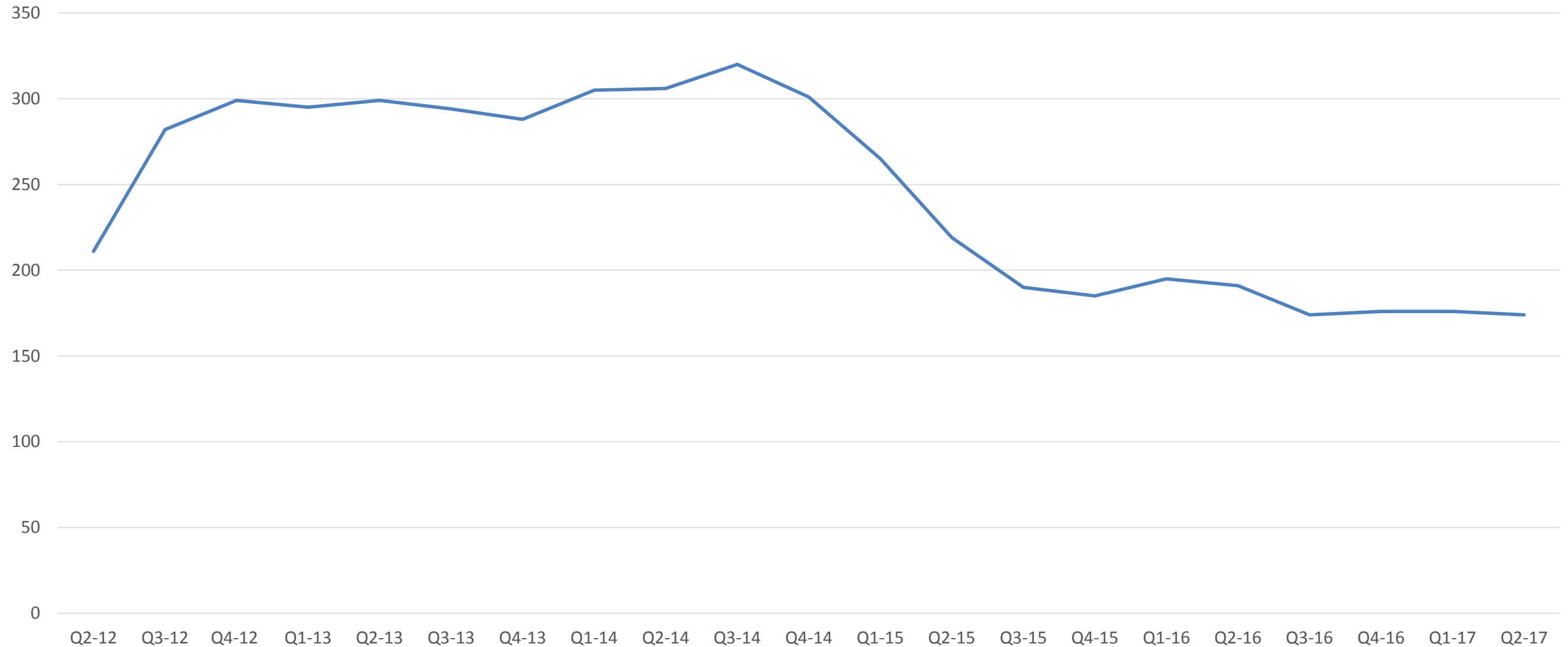
CURRENT TRENDS

NATIONAL DRUG SHORTAGES BY YEAR JAN 1, 2001 TO JUNE 30, 2017



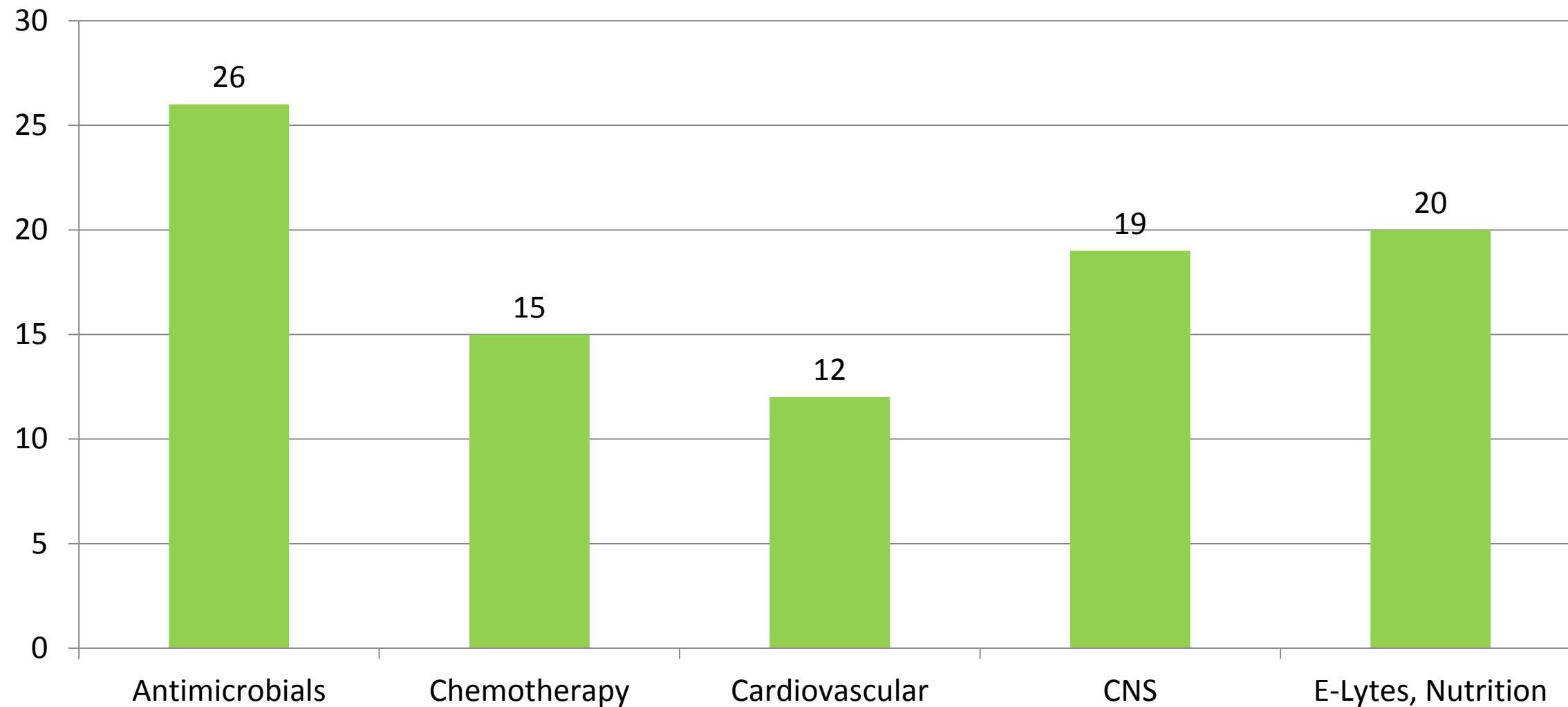
Erin R. Fox, University of Utah Drug Information Service

ACTIVE AND ONGOING SHORTAGES – 5 YEAR TREND



Erin R. Fox, University of Utah Drug Information Service

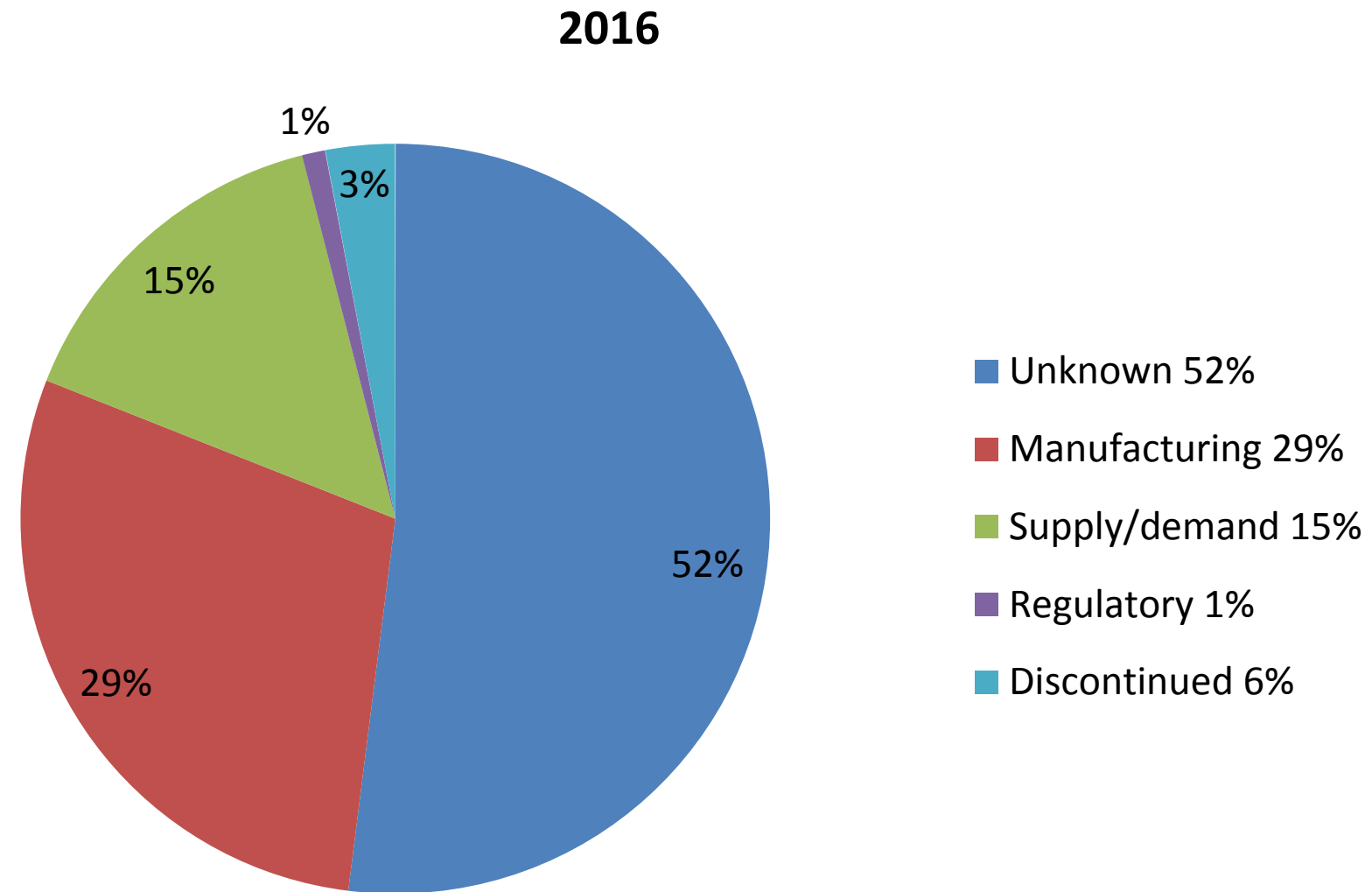
ACTIVE SHORTAGES TOP 5 DRUG CLASSES



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REASONS FOR SHORTAGES AS DETERMINED BY UUDIS DURING INVESTIGATION



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WHAT DO THESE NUMBERS MEAN?

- The rate of new shortages has decreased
- Long-term active and ongoing shortages are not resolving
- Shortages of basics like sodium bicarbonate, emergency syringes, antibiotics, electrolytes, and cardiovascular agents still impact large numbers of clinicians and patients

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-595>



WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

WHAT ARE KEY CAUSES OF DRUG SHORTAGES?

- a. Raw material issues
- b. Counterfeit products
- c. US manufacturing moving overseas
- d. None of the above

SHORTAGE REASONS – MYTHS VS. REALITY CHECK

- US problem only
 - Raw materials
 - Foreign manufacturing
 - Imports are the fix
 - Counterfeits cause shortages in US
 - One single reason for shortages
- Europe, Canada, US
 - Rare cause
 - Issues at US facilities
 - No product to import
 - Rare cause, global problem
 - Complex problem

JUNE 2016 GAO ANALYSIS

- GAO reviewed UUDIS, FDA data
- Factors associated with shortages – 2012 to 2015
 - Fewer suppliers with at least 1 with a warning letter for not following CGMP
 - Generic products – lower profit margins
 - <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-595>

ARE SHORTAGES FDA'S FAULT?

a. True

b. False

ARE SHORTAGES FDA'S FAULT?

NO

- FDA shortage team is extremely collaborative
- Violations must be extreme for a shut-down (safety first!)
- Work diligently to prevent shortages

YES

- Enforcement actions can cause shortages
- Manufacturers may have trouble complying with regulations
- Regulatory discretion = unintended consequences?

FDA'S STRATEGY

- Prioritize medically necessary agents (determined on a case by case basis)
- Evaluate risks and benefits for patients
- Offer assistance and advise, but up to the manufacturer to fix
- Success hinges on early notification

HOW DOES FDA PREVENT SHORTAGES?

- Regulatory discretion
 - Require filters, double checks
- Ask others to increase production
- Expedite reviews (new product, longer expiration, new raw material, new manufacturing sites)
- Imports

IMPORTS

- Multiple examples since 2010
 - propofol, foscarnet, ethiodol, thiotepa, norepinephrine, capecitabine, leucovorin, levoleucovorin, methotrexate, doxorubicin liposomal, phentolamine, sodium bicarbonate, nitroglycerin, saline, bleomycin
- Limited by quantity available to share with US market
 - May be difficult to access or use
 - May not be an option for some clinical trials

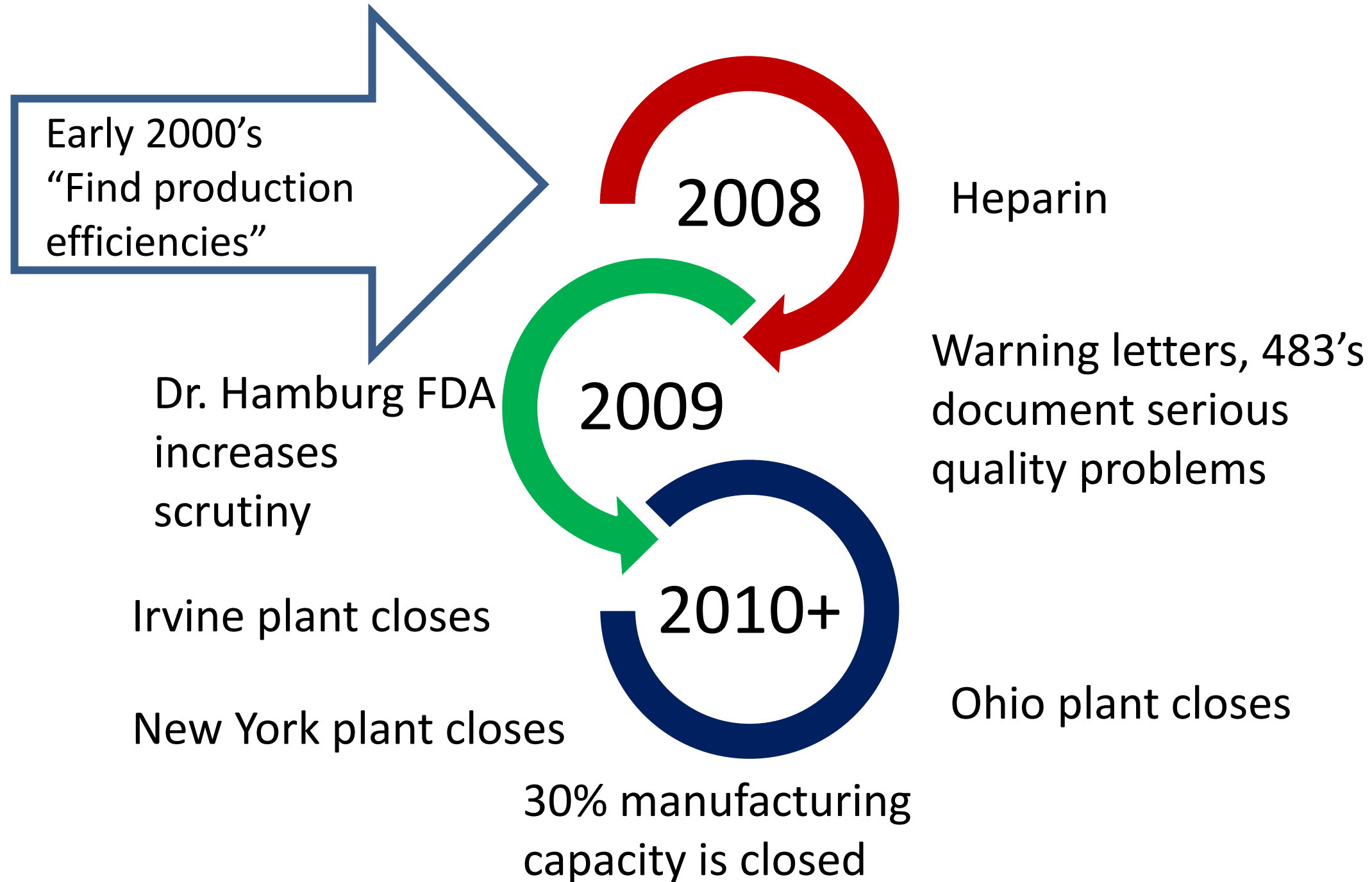
FDA STRATEGIC PLAN

- Mandated as part of FDASIA law
- 2 key goals
 - Enhance mitigation efforts
 - Develop long-term prevention
- Suggestions for external stakeholders
 - Manufacturing incentives
 - Use quality data when purchasing
 - Capacity, redundancy



HOW DID WE GET HERE?

CASCADE OF EVENTS



FORM 483 AND WARNING LETTERS

- 483 - documents inspection findings
- Warning letters – significant issues
- Worth reading – even with redactions
 - Metal particles, mold, contamination
 - Insects, animals
 - Urine
 - Manipulating data, mixing good with failed API

FRAGILE SUPPLY CHAIN GENERIC INJECTABLES

- Few suppliers
 - 3 manufacturers supply 71% of market
 - Only 1 or 2 manufacturers for > 1/3 products
- Capacity is limited
 - Concentrated, “just in time” production
 - Multiple products made on single line
 - No back up manufacturing lines

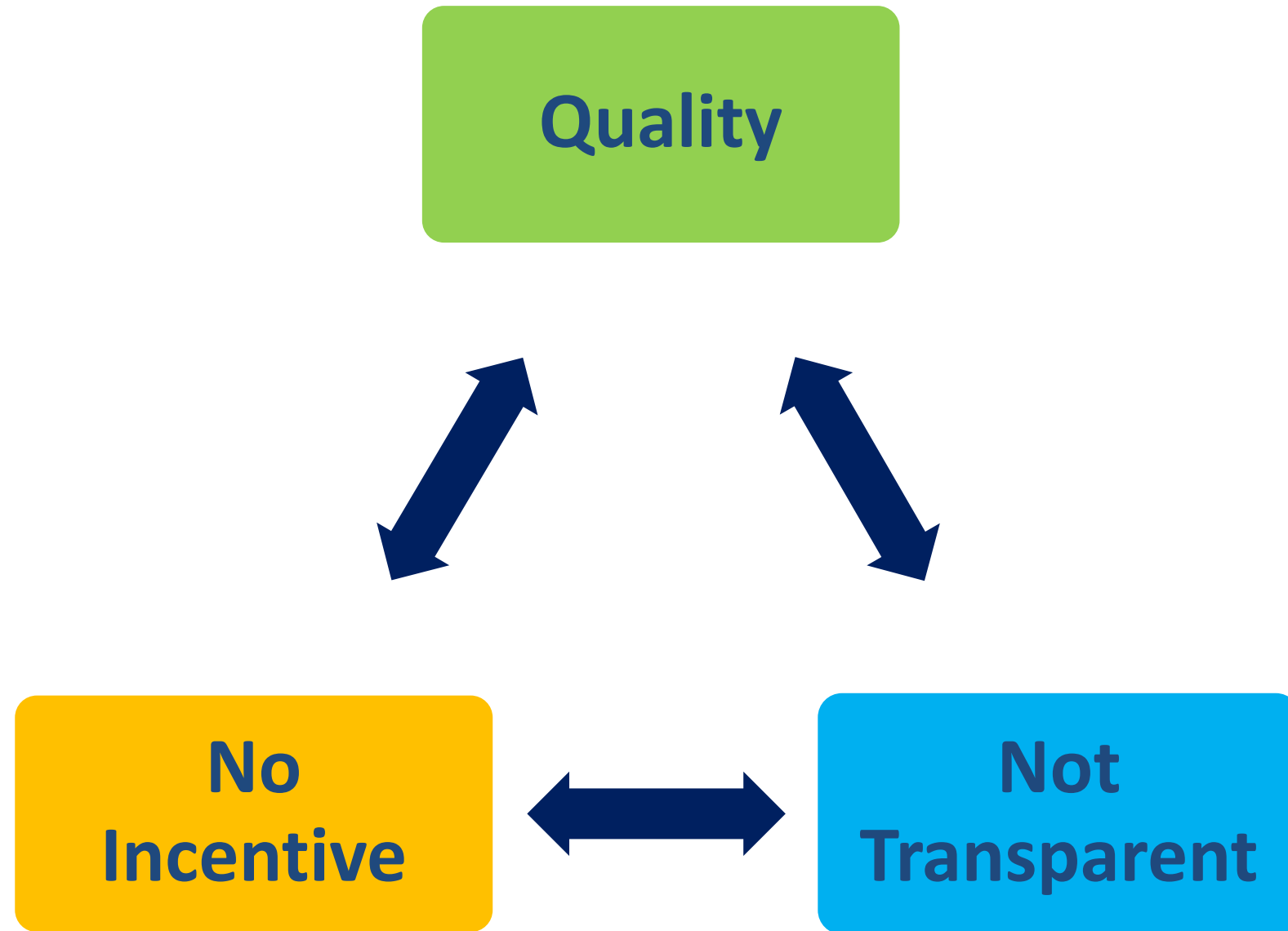
DRUG MANUFACTURING IS A BUSINESS

- Profitability
- Manufacturing fixes
- Capacity – most factories running 24/7
- Prioritization (new opportunities)
- Forecasting (contracts)
- Aging facilities

NO QUICK AND EASY FIX

- Complex manufacturing process
 - Quality problems are difficult to fix
 - Investigation of root cause takes time
 - Changes take time
 - Capacity or redundancy not available

ECONOMIC DRIVERS OF DRUG SHORTAGES



Clin Pharmacol Ther. 2013;93:170–176
Mayo Clinic Proc. 2014.89(3):361-373

WHAT DOES QUALITY MEAN?

- Difficult to observe
- Microbial contamination difficult to detect (non-uniform, patients already sick)
- Purchasers rely on FDA to ensure quality
- FDA inspects, but relies on manufacturer to self-report between inspections
- Does quality = availability?

NO REQUIREMENT TO REPORT MANUFACTURER OF PRODUCT

- Contract manufacturing means we don't always know who makes the product
- No requirement to disclose manufacturer (or location) in product label (or 483)
- Your brand product may be manufactured by a generic company

ISN'T THIS A FREE MARKET ISSUE?

- Supply and demand doesn't work - choice, market entry not easy
- How to purchase for quality?
- Shortages generally don't impact profits
- Patients and clinicians impacted, not suppliers



FIXING THE SHORTAGE PROBLEM

INDUSTRY BASED EFFORTS

- Accelerated Recovery Initiative (2011)
 - GPhA developed plan
 - Partnership between IMS and generic manufacturers
 - No case studies yet – capacity

Karlin S. Generic Rx Shortage Initiative Stuck: Too Few Manufacturers to Pick Up Slack. The Pink Sheet. July 8 2013: #00130708013.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PHARMACEUTICAL ENGINEERING

- Survey -2013
 - Key deficits in quality systems, aseptic processing equipment
- Shortage initiative
 - Root causes of manufacturing problems
- Prevention Plan (October 2014)
 - 6 dimension plan
- Quality Metrics

International Society for Pharmaceutical Engineering (ISPE). <http://www.ispe.org/drugshortages>. 2013.



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CDER's Office of Pharmaceutical Quality's (OPQ) mission is to assure that quality medicines are available for the American public.

What OPQ Does

OPQ is a new office within CDER that creates a single unit dedicated to product quality. The new structure, which stood-up in January 2015, provides better alignment among all drug quality functions at CDER, including review, inspection, and research.

OPQ combines non-enforcement-related drug quality work into one super-office, creating one quality voice and improving our oversight of quality throughout the lifecycle of a drug product. OPQ creates a uniform drug quality program across all sites of manufacture, whether domestic or foreign, and across all drug product areas – new drugs, generic drugs, and over-the-counter drugs.

QUALITY METRICS GOALS

- Modernize drug quality oversight
- Risk based inspection scheduling, predictive of drug shortages
- Objective criteria including:
 - Lot acceptance rate
 - Product quality complaint rate

NEW IDEAS FOR MANUFACTURING

- Janet Woodcock advocates continuous manufacturing for:
 - Faster, improved quality, lower prices, fewer shortages
 - Domestic plants – fully integrated from API to finished product

Cox B. FDA Talks Up Continuous Manufacturing, Offers Assistance.
The Gold Sheet. July 29 2014: # 08140724006.

CONTINUOUS MANUFACTURING

- Traditional manufacturing = batch process
 - At every step, product is assessed and collected
 - Off-line labs test finished product
 - Days to weeks processing time
- Continuous manufacturing = monitoring throughout
 - Minutes to hours processing time



BEST PRACTICES TO MINIMIZE IMPACT

DISASTER PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Rationing Salt Water — Disaster Planning and Daily Care Delivery

John L. Hick, M.D., Dan Hanfling, M.D., Brooke Courtney, J.D., M.P.H., and Nicole Lurie, M.D., M.S.P.H.

NEJM , March 19, 2014

- Mitigation
- Preparedness
- Response
- Recovery



MANAGING MEDICATION SHORTAGES

- No single emergency – daily emergencies
- Pharmacists and other clinicians successfully manage shortages every day
- Best practice = **Have a Plan**
- Best practice = **Make a Team**

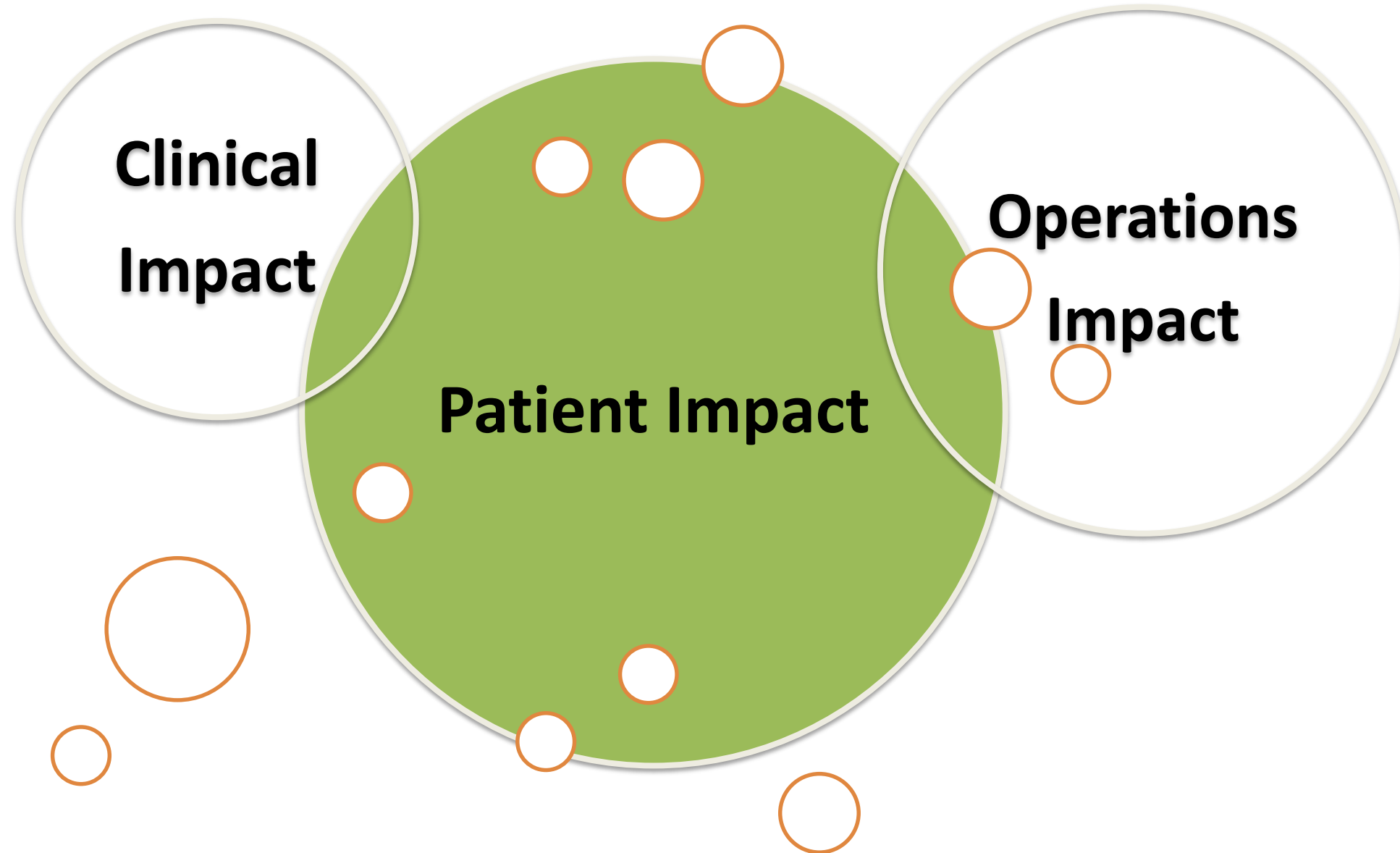
TEAM CHECKLIST – WHO WILL...

- ✓ Gather data, monitor the shortage?
- ✓ Make purchasing decisions?
- ✓ Make storage, preparation, and dispensing change decisions?
- ✓ Make rationing decisions?
- ✓ Change technology?
- ✓ Communicate information?

SHORTAGE MANAGEMENT TEAM COMMUNICATIONS

- Make sure each member understands their role and shares back information
- Situations can change quickly
- Efficient management relies on good team communication
- Timeliness is essential

COMPLEX PROBLEM SOLVING



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

- Customize – what type of shortage?
 - Some drug available
 - Ration vs. use until gone
 - No drug available, use alternatives
 - No drug available, no alternatives
 - Postpone therapy vs. no therapy
- Must customize for acuity / impact
 - (IV fluids vs. chemotherapy vs. vaccine)

MOST COMMON SITUATION WE CAN GET SOME BUT...

- It's a different strength
- It's in different packaging
- It's a different size
- It's from a different manufacturer
- It's imported
- It's not enough!

WHICH SITUATION COULD LEAD TO THE GREATEST HARM?

- a. Same drug – different strength
- b. Same drug – different packaging
- c. Imported drug
- d. No drug available

ANSWER

- It depends.....
- Different strength most concerning according to failure modes and effects analysis
 - SALA errors possible with different packaging, manufacturers
 - Imported product (lack of bar code, NDC, packaging differences)
 - Range of patient impact

RATIONING AND ETHICS

- Don't ration alone
- Example tools available by drug class
- Chemotherapy
 - J Oncol Pract. 2013 Mar;9(2):e21-3
 - Arch Intern Med. 2012 Oct 22;172(19):1494-9.
 - Oncologist. 2014;19(2):186-92.
- Antimicrobials
 - Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2012 Jul;33(7):745-52

MESSAGING

- Balance timeliness and completeness.
- Initial plan and ongoing status updates:
 - Will product look different – pictures!
 - Alternative agents - include dose, drug interactions, safety issues.
 - Conservation strategy – which patients are eligible?
 - Decision making process transparency.



SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

THE TREND IN DRUG SHORTAGES FOR 2016 IS ONE OF:

- a. Decreasing new shortages and increasing active shortages
- b. Increasing new shortages but decreasing active shortages
- c. Slight increase in new shortages and decreasing active shortages
- d. Decreasing new shortages and a gradual decrease in active shortages

THE REASON FOR MOST SHORTAGES IS:

- a. Raw material shortages
- b. Natural disasters
- c. Manufacturing or quality problems
- d. Corporate decisions

PACKAGE INSERTS MUST INCLUDE:

- a. Name of the company that manufactured the drug
- b. Location of the factory
- c. Country of origin for the active pharmaceutical ingredient (API)
- d. None of the above

FDA CAN PREVENT SOME SHORTAGES BY:

- a. Prioritizing approvals of new products
- b. Forcing companies to increase production
- c. Forcing companies to continue to produce a drug
- d. Decreasing drug prices

DETERMINING POTENTIAL CLINICAL IMPACT OF A SHORTAGE INCLUDES:

- a. Whether an alternative is available
- b. Identifying which patients will be most impacted
- c. Determining if the product is life-saving or curative
- d. All of the above



FINAL THOUGHTS

IT MAY GET WORSE BEFORE IT GETS BETTER.....

- FDA increasing inspectors in India, China
- Factories with past problems sold – will \$\$ be spent to truly fix?
- Focus on biosimilars
- Who will make the basics that we need?

BUT THERE IS SOME HOPE

- Trend of decreasing new shortages is real
- Action is moving towards prevention, early identification of manufacturing issues

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