



# NCPA<sup>®</sup>

*the* NATIONAL COMMUNITY  
PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION

THE VOICE OF COMMUNITY PHARMACY

# Effective Distribution of PMIs

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# Issues to Date

- MedGuide, CMI and PPI all separate programs
  - Too much information – not read = not useful
- MedGuides required with increasing number of products/product classes
- Many manufacturers not providing the documents to pharmacies or the means to produce
- Brand and generics could have different MedGuides
- Pharmacy variability
- FDA inflexibility with distribution

# Pharmacists' Roles and Responsibilities

- Provide the information or make the information available to patients
- Use the information to counsel patients
- Tell where more information can be obtained
- Do not include promotional material
- Don't edit the information (or should they be customized?)
- Multiple languages? How to do?
- New and refill prescriptions?

# Infrastructure

- Support single document integrating general PI and MedGuide if applicable
  - By product (brand and generic)? By product class?
- Multiple pharmacy software systems; chains may have easier time
  - Single pass document
  - May not have laser printers/graphics
- Database companies need to incorporate information into various products
- Pharmacy information software template formats -- programmed to print only one page of information, regardless of actual document length
  - Pharmacy having necessary equipment to print out additional pages of medication information
  - Not all pharmacies have internet access

# Channels for Distribution

- Physician – decide at the point of prescribing
- Hand to patient/caregiver with Rx
- Email (suggested to FDA years ago)
- Pharmacy website
- FDA website
- Unit of use packaging

# Other Issues

- Measuring Effectiveness of Distribution
- Pilots
- Interim Solutions