



**September 28, 2015**

Senator Lamar Alexander  
Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education,  
Labor, and Pensions (HELP)  
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education,  
Labor, and Pensions (HELP)  
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: ANDA Prioritization to Address Generic Price Spikes**

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

We are writing about recent price spikes in the generic drug market and their impact on healthcare providers and patients. We ask that you pursue legislation granting the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authority to prioritize Abbreviated New Drug Applications (ANDA) in order to help mitigate existing generic price spikes and avoid future spikes for drugs where there are only one or two manufacturers.

The Healthcare Supply Chain Association's (HSCA) member group purchasing organizations (GPOs) are crucial cost-savings engines for America's hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and surgery centers. HSCA and its members are committed to lowering costs and increasing competition and innovation in the healthcare marketplace. We are concerned that generic price spikes, often caused by monopoly or duopoly situations, are negatively impacting competition, cost, and available supply of necessary drugs.

Generic price spikes and their effects – including making life-saving medications unaffordable for some patients – are an enormous risk to public health. Recently, we have seen significant spikes for many widely used generic drugs. In less than two years, for example, the price of two important generic cardiac drugs increased by over 2,700 percent. Additionally, one generic anti-parasitic compound recently surged to a 4,522 percent price increase. These are just the tip of the iceberg.

We applaud you for your previous efforts to address critical drug shortages, including giving FDA the authority to “fast track” new drug applications to help mitigate or prevent shortages. We urge you to pass legislation granting FDA the same authority for generic drugs experiencing price spikes or those for which there are only one or two manufacturers. Doing so will help increase competition, reduce costs for providers, and preserve access in the generic drug market.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly should you have any questions. I can be reached at 202.367.1162 or [tebert@supplychainassociation.org](mailto:tebert@supplychainassociation.org).

Sincerely,



Todd Ebert  
President and CEO  
Healthcare Supply Chain Association

cc:

Senator Richard Burr  
Senator Michael Enzi  
Senator Johnny Isakson  
Senator Rand Paul  
Senator Susan Collins  
Senator Lisa Murkowski  
Senator Mark Kirk  
Senator Tim Scott  
Senator Orrin Hatch  
Senator Pat Roberts  
Senator Bill Cassidy

Senator Barbara Mikulski  
Senator Bernie Sanders  
Senator Robert Casey  
Senator Al Franken  
Senator Michael Bennet  
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse  
Senator Tammy Baldwin  
Senator Christopher Murphy  
Senator Elizabeth Warren