

Supply Chain Resource Council (SCRC) Report

May 8, 2023 Meeting

Executive Summary

Starting on an upbeat note; overall, blood collection tube availability has improved. Spot shortages remain, however some SCRC respondents indicated that their organizations were returning to pre-shortage blood collection processes. The group discussed a number of recurring topics and added Prefilled Sterile Saline Flush syringes to its “watch list.” More details on these shortages and other updates from the field can be found in the full report below.

▲ Updates

- **NIOSH rescissions of previously approved N95 respirators.** In addition to rescinding Honeywell N95 respirators, at the time of this meeting NIOSH added the E.D. Bullard N95 respirators to the list.

Since the May 8th call, NIOSH revoked eight more PHE FFR approvals and four PHE PAPR approvals issued to the approval holders. Respirators bearing the NIOSH approval numbers [listed in this table](#) are no longer considered approved and may not be used to fulfill any standard or statute requiring the use of a NIOSH-Approved respirator.

- **Tourniquet cuffs:** cleaning guidance for tourniquet cuffs from the FDA remains pending.
- **EtO:** The AHA is speaking with representatives from various group purchasing organizations, device manufacturers and commercial sterilizers to better understand any implications that the EPA proposals may have for the medical device supply chain, and is planning to comment on these proposals.

Anyone interested in learning more about the work efforts AdvaMed is engaged regarding EtO, which types of medical devices rely on EtO and their stakeholder engagement activities please reach out to Abby Pratt, Senior Vice President, Global Strategy & Analysis, apratt@advamed.org

▲ Supply Chain Watch List – supply shortages causing concern in the field

- **Prefill sterile packaged Saline Flush Syringes.** Availability issues of *sterile* package syringes was reported by one of the SCRC members. Non-sterile package product is available through Halyard, Medline, and later this year BD. [MedXL](#), a company based in Canada and The Netherlands sells sterile packaged product. Note: AHRMM is not endorsing MedXL or their products. Please follow your organization’s vendor review and approval policies.

▲ Other Items

- **Vacutainer/BCT availability.** Thank you to all who responded to the supply questions related to vacutainer tubes. Overall, it appears that we’ve weathered the worst of the shortage situation and that overall, blood collection tube availability has improved. Spot shortages remain however, some respondents indicated their organizations were returning to pre-shortage blood collection processes.
- **Human Trafficking preparedness.** As shared last month, AHRMM is a participating member in the public/private Joint Forced Labor Working Group (JFLWG) and a co-leader of the Due Diligence Education Task Group of the JFLWG. We are seeking multi-sector (providers, GPO’s, manufacturers and distributor) examples from the field regarding contract language, codes of conduct and policies addressing forced labor practices in the health care supply chain. The goal is to create a primary

repository to host these health care sector resources and tools. Selected resources will be approved by the contributing organizations prior to posting publically.

The group shared some examples during our call. If you have any additional examples or templates to share, please send them to Mike Schiller at mschiller@aha.org

About the Supply Chain Resource Council (SCRC)

The Supply Chain Resource Council (SCRC) is comprised of more than 80 supply chain and health care leaders from across the health care field with the goal of understanding the extent and impact supply shortages and disruptions are having within the hospital and patient care settings, as well as a capturing and documenting solutions to these challenges. Information collected during these calls is drafted into a report and shared with AHA, AHRMM and Professional Management Group (PMG) leaders, the White House Response Team, various Federal Agencies and the broader health care field. *The content of this report represents information, strategies and solutions from SCRC members but does not necessarily reflect policy positions of the AHA.*