

# Human Drug Compounding




FDA's Human Drug Compounding Progress Report: Three Years After Enactment of the Drug Quality and

Security Act (January 2017)

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Compounding is generally a practice in which a licensed pharmacist, a licensed physician, or, in the case of an [outsourcing facility \(/drugs/compounding/information-outsourcing-facilities\)](#), a person under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist, combines, mixes, or alters ingredients of a drug to create a medication tailored to the needs of an individual patient. Although compounded drugs can serve an important medical need for certain patients, they also [present a risk \(http://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20170111235218/http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm107836.htm\)](http://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20170111235218/http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm107836.htm)  (<http://www.fda.gov/about-fda/website-policies/website-disclaimer>) to patients.

FDA's compounding program aims to protect patients from unsafe, ineffective and poor quality compounded drugs, while preserving access to lawfully-marketed compounded drugs for patients who have a medical need for them.

Questions? Email FDA's compounding team at [compounding@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:compounding@fda.hhs.gov) (<mailto:compounding@fda.hhs.gov>).

## **[Compounding Quality Center of Excellence \(/drugs/human-drug-compounding/compounding-quality-center-excellence\)](#)**

Learn more about FDA's efforts to improve the quality of compounded drugs, primarily those made at outsourcing facilities, through the [Compounding Quality Center of Excellence \(/drugs/human-drug-compounding/compounding-quality-center-excellence\)](#).


## **[Compounding Laws and Policies \(/drugs/compounding/compounding-laws-and-policies\)](#)**

Find information about federal law and FDA policies that apply to compounding and other activities compounders undertake. Read [section 503A \(/drugs/compounding/section-503a-federal-food-drug-and-cosmetic-act\)](#) and [section 503B \(/drugs/compounding/text-compounding-quality-act\)](#) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Learn more about [federal law provisions that apply to human drug compounding \(/drugs/compounding/fdc-act-provisions-apply-human-drug-compounding\)](#) and [FDA policies on compounding and other related activities \(/drugs/compounding/drug-production-activities-pharmacies-physicians-federal-facilities-and-outsourcing-facilities\)](#). Find a list of [compounding policy documents \(/drugs/compounding/regulatory-policy-information\)](#) and information about the [Pharmacy Compounding Advisory Committee \(/pharmacy-compounding-advisory-committee\)](#). Also, find [clarifications \(/drugs/guidance-compliance-regulatory-information/fda-clarifies-compounding-policies\)](#) on FDA's policies.

## **[Compounding Oversight and Compliance Actions \(/drugs/compounding](#)**


## **[/compounding-oversight](#)**

Find links to [compounding inspections, recalls, and other actions \(/drugs/compounding/compounding-inspections-recalls-and-other-actions\)](#), as well as descriptions of some of the [documents and actions involved in FDA oversight of compounding \(/drugs/compounding/fda-compounding-documents-and-actions\)](#). Learn about the [risks \(/drugs/compounding/compounding-risk-alerts\)](#) associated with certain compounded drugs. Also, find answers to [frequently asked questions about FDA inspections of compounders \(/drugs/compounding/compounding-inspections-frequently-asked-questions\)](#).

Watch a [webinar \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXXz4o0RDeM\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXXz4o0RDeM)  (<http://www.fda.gov/about-fda/website-policies/website-disclaimer>) to learn why cleanrooms and cleanroom behaviors are important for preventing insanitary conditions that can adversely impact the quality and safety of drug products.

## **[/drugs/compounding/information-outsourcing-facilities](#)**

Find general [information for outsourcing facilities \(/drugs/compounding/information-outsourcing-facilities\)](#), as well as a list of currently [registered outsourcing facilities \(/drugs/human-drug-compounding/registered-outsourcing-facilities\)](#). Thinking of registering as an outsourcing facility? Find answers to [frequently asked questions for entities considering registration \(/drugs/compounding/questions-and-answers-related-guidance-entities-considering-whether-register-outsourcing-facilities\)](#), information on [facility fees \(http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/UserFees/HumanOutsourcingFacilityUserFee/default.htm\)](#) and how to [register and submit product reporting information \(/drugs/drug-registration-and-listing/human-drug-compounding-registration-and-product-reporting-procedures\)](#) to FDA.

Watch a [webinar \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXXz4o0RDeM\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXXz4o0RDeM)  (<http://www.fda.gov/about-fda/website-policies/website-disclaimer>) to learn why cleanrooms and cleanroom behaviors are important for preventing insanitary conditions that can adversely impact the quality and safety of drug products.

## **[/drugs/human-drug-compounding/bulk-drug-substances-used-compounding](#)**

Find information on using bulk drug substances under sections [503A \(/drugs/human-drug-compounding/bulk-drug-substances-used-compounding-under-section-503a-fdc-act\)](#) and [503B \(/drugs/human-drug-compounding/bulk-drug-substances-used-compounding-under-section-503b-fdc-act\)](#) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. FDA is working to develop the [503A bulks list](#) and [503B bulks list \(https://www.fda.gov/media/120692/download\)](#), which will be updated on an ongoing basis as the agency evaluates bulk drug substances nominated for these lists. Find information to [know your bulks supplier \(/drugs/human-drug-compounding/fda-compounders-know-your-bulks-](#)

supplier) because compounding from bulk drug substances presents risks to patients.

### **[Information for Consumers and Health Care Professionals \(/drugs/compounding/consumer-and-health-care-professional-information\)](#)**

Find resources for consumers (/drugs/human-drug-compounding/consumer-and-health-care-professional-information) who use compounded medicines and health care professionals (/drugs/human-drug-compounding/consumer-and-health-care-professional-information) who prescribe compounded medicine, including answers to frequently asked questions and how to report adverse events and product complaints to FDA.

### **[Information for States \(/drugs/compounding/human-drug-compounding-information-states\)](#)**

Find information regarding FDA and state collaboration (/drugs/human-drug-compounding/compounding-information-states) to oversee compounding, as well as resources for state regulators, including information on the standard Memorandum of Understanding Addressing Certain Distributions of Compounded Drugs (/drugs/human-drug-compounding/memorandum-understanding-addressing-certain-distributions-compounded-drugs).

### **[Compounding Research \(/drugs/human-drug-compounding/compounding-research\)](#)**

Find information about external partnerships for compounding research (/drugs/human-drug-compounding/compounding-research).