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## **HSCA COMMENDS FDA LEADERSHIP, EFFORTS TO ADDRESS SHORTAGE OF NORMAL SALINE**

### *FDA Temporarily Permits Normal Saline Importation in Response to Shortage*

**Washington, DC (April 1, 2014)** – The Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA) and its group purchasing organization (GPO) members today applauded the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for its leadership in addressing shortages of critical prescription drugs, following the agency’s [recent announcement](#) that it would temporarily allow the importation of 0.9% sodium chloride injection (normal saline) from a Norwegian supplier that has satisfied FDA standards.

HSCA President Curtis Rooney released the following statement:

“HSCA commends the FDA for its ongoing leadership on the issue of drug shortages and for taking the steps necessary to ensure that patients and healthcare providers have uninterrupted access to normal saline.

“GPOs are working collaboratively with the FDA and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), as well as hospitals, manufacturers and distributors, to help mitigate the impact of drug shortages.

“Drug shortages are a complex challenge with no simple fix, but GPOs will continue to work tirelessly with supply chain partners to expand the number of suppliers, help manage existing supply, and ensure that patients have an uninterrupted supply of the treatments they need.”

For more details on the steps that GPOs have taken to help mitigate the impact of drug shortages, please visit [www.drugshortage.org](http://www.drugshortage.org)

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### **About the Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA)**

The Healthcare Supply Chain Association, formerly the Health Industry Group Purchasing Association, is a broad-based trade association that represents 14 group purchasing organizations, including for-profit and not-for-profit corporations, purchasing groups, associations, multi-hospital systems and healthcare provider alliances. HSCA’s mission is to advocate on behalf of healthcare group purchasing associations, to provide educational opportunities designed to improve efficiencies in the purchase, sale and utilization of all goods and services within the health industry and to promote meaningful dialogue between GPOs. For more information, visit [www.supplychainassociation.org](http://www.supplychainassociation.org).