I. Compounded Pharmaceuticals for Use in the Office

Compounded pharmaceuticals intended for in-office use, whether for one or several animal patients, must be received from a properly licensed wholesaler/manufacturer or a pharmacy that is licensed as a manufacturer (also known as a 503B compounding pharmacy). The compounded pharmaceuticals are generally ordered in bulk packaging and intended only for administration in the office or repackaging and dispensing to individual patients. It is important to ensure that you are ordering from the correct compounding pharmacy: one that is allowed to dispense non-patient-specific compounded pharmaceuticals rather than a licensed pharmacy that may only dispense patient-specific compounded pharmaceuticals.

Where can I order Compounded Pharmaceuticals for Use in the Office?

Multi-use, non-patient specific, compounding pharmaceuticals can be ordered from a wholesaler / manufacturer or a pharmacy that is licensed as a manufacturer with the Department of Consumer Protection and the FDA. These pharmacies are sometimes referred to as 503B compounding pharmacies. Such properly ordered drugs may be used by veterinarians to dispense or administer to different patients.

II. Patient-Specific Compounded Pharmaceuticals

Which pharmacies can fill patient-specific compounded prescriptions?

A Connecticut or non-resident compounding pharmacy that has an active license and addendum with the Department of Consumer Protection may dispense compounded pharmaceuticals pursuant to a prescription or medical order from a qualified practitioner. These pharmacies are sometimes referred to as 503A compounding pharmacies.

What are the requirements and limitations for a patient-specific prescription?

Connecticut law requires that all prescriptions for animals shall include the name and address of the owner and the species of the animal. Veterinarians may not prescribe drugs for an animal in the name of the Veterinarian or that of their practice. Medication provided under a patient-specific prescription belongs to the patient that is identified on the prescription only. Any unused medication shall not be used for other patients.

Can compounded pharmaceuticals ordered pursuant to a prescription for a specific patient be used for multiple patients?

NO. Medications that are ordered for a specific patient shall only be used by that patient or administered to that patient. Remaining medication from that order should either be destroyed or sent home with the patient.

What if I currently have patient-specific compounded pharmaceuticals that are no longer required for the animal they were prescribed?

You may dispose of these drugs by contacting a reverse distributor or send an email to dcp.drugdestruction@ct.gov requesting an agent to dispose of the drugs.

This guidance is intended to help Veterinarians to understand the differences between the two compounding pharmacies in order to comply with Connecticut laws. If you have questions as to whether or not a specific pharmacy is able to distribute compounded pharmaceuticals for use in the office please contact Drug Control at DCP.DrugControl@ct.gov.