

From: William Arroyo [mailto:wmarroyo@pacbell.net]
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2012 10:46 AM
To: William Arroyo
Subject: Medication Shortage - Update

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AACAP Member Email

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1/11/2012

Dear AACAP Members,

Thank you to the over 300 members who responded to our latest email regarding medication shortages. We appreciate receiving these responses within a short period of time and have made this a priority issue.

AACAP is working with the Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD), National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and others to improve the medication shortage situation and to prevent these shortages from happening again. AACAP recently talked with DEA and they stated that the stimulant medication shortage is a priority for them and that it has also gained the attention of the White House.

We are primarily concerned about how children and adolescents are experiencing difficulties accessing needed treatments and the negative impact that the medication shortage is having on children, parents, families and practices. Our previous member email collected [medication shortage information](#) and captured anecdotes on [how the shortage is impacting patients and practice](#). We collected information from all states except Alaska, Idaho, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Wyoming ([see map](#)). Approximately 71 percent of AACAP member responses reported shortages with Adderall (brand and generic), 26 percent with Ritalin (brand and generic), and 3 percent with other medications (e.g., Dexedrine, Concerta, and Focalin) ([see chart](#)).

Unfortunately the short-term outlook is not good. The 2012 DEA-approved medications will not hit the market until March at the earliest and advises members to continue working with patients to have prescriptions written ahead of time and to identify alternative medication regimens. Last month, DEA announced increases to the 2012 quotas for both methylphenidate and amphetamine. In addition, FDA has a website dedicated to tracking ongoing shortages. We encourage you, as a physician, to report medication shortages directly on [FDA's website](#).

As you know this has received a large amount of press coverage. There was an article in [the New York Times](#) and an [NBC Nightly News](#) story specific to ADHD medication shortages. If you receive any press calls our Communications Department is happy to help. Please contact them at communications@aacap.com.

AACAP will continue to stay in regular contact and plans to meet with the DEA and FDA as well as other stakeholders and Members of Congress about the medication shortages. I appreciate your continued feedback as we work to address medication shortages and influence positive change.

If you have not responded regarding your experience with the shortages, we would like to hear from you, please contact AACAP's Research, Training and Education Department at research@aacap.org.

Martin J. Drell, M.D.
President
AACAP

This email is intended for AACAP members only. Please do not forward.

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

3615 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. | Washington, D.C. 20016-3007 | Phone: 202.966.7300 | Fax: 202.966.2891

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