



## Donate Meds. Change Lives.

Vermont Legislature  
Senate Committee on Health and Welfare

Prescription Drug Donation Repository Testimony  
January 25, 2018



### 501(c)(3)

Established in 2001 as the Iowa Prescription Drug Corporation to provide pharmaceutical access to Iowans who cannot afford prescription drugs.

Serve Iowa's Safety Net Patients - uninsured or underinsured Iowans with incomes 200 percent of the federal poverty level or below

### Safety Net Services

- Address issues of pharmaceutical access through innovative, non-traditional partnerships.
- Leverage scarce resources and create value for all stakeholders in our health delivery systems.
- Short-term, Gap Assistance
- Focus: Safety Net Patients – High cost users
  - Uninsured and Underinsured
  - Medicare eligible Iowans
  - Individuals with Chronic Behavioral Health Disorders
  - State and Local Offenders



## Medication Waste in the US:

An estimated \$5B in medications are wasted annually in the United States

- [BMJ2014, 349:g7677](#)



## Medication Waste in the US:

- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimated in 2015 that about 740 tons of drugs are wasted by nursing homes alone each year.
- The US Food and Drug Administration advises consumers to dispose of unused medications in the household trash or flushing meds down the toilet.
- The EPA identified 56 active pharmaceutical ingredients in samples taken from 50 very large municipal waste water treatment plants in the US.



# Consequences of Inappropriate Medication Disposal

- Accidental poisoning
- Unintended overdoses
- Prescription drug diversion
- Environmental contamination

Coggins, Today's Geriatric Medicine, Vol 9, No 1, P8.

# Iowa Drug Donation Repository

- *Administrative Rules established in 2007*
- *Public Health Department 641-Chapter 109*
- *Regulated by the Iowa Board of Pharmacy*

**Overview:** Iowans in need of assistance can receive medications and medical supplies for little or no cost. Donations are received from long-term care dispensing pharmacies, medical facilities, and individuals. The medications and supplies are inspected by a pharmacist, distributed to medical facilities or pharmacies, and dispensed to Iowans in need.

**Recipient Eligibility:** Iowans at or below 200% of the federal poverty level who are uninsured or under-insured are eligible to receive donated drugs.

**Donor Eligibility:** Any organization or individual in the country can donate medications in their original sealed container or in tamper-evident packaging.

**Dispenser Eligibility:** Any pharmacy or medical facility with authorization to dispense per State administrative rules may re-dispense donated medications.

# donor eligibility

## Most Common Donors:

- Long-term care dispensing pharmacies
- Medical facilities
- Institutional care
- Community pharmacies
- Primary care clinics
- Specialty clinics (Oncology, Neurology, Gastroenterology)
- Community mental health centers
- Any organization or individual in the country can donate medications

## Donation Requirements:

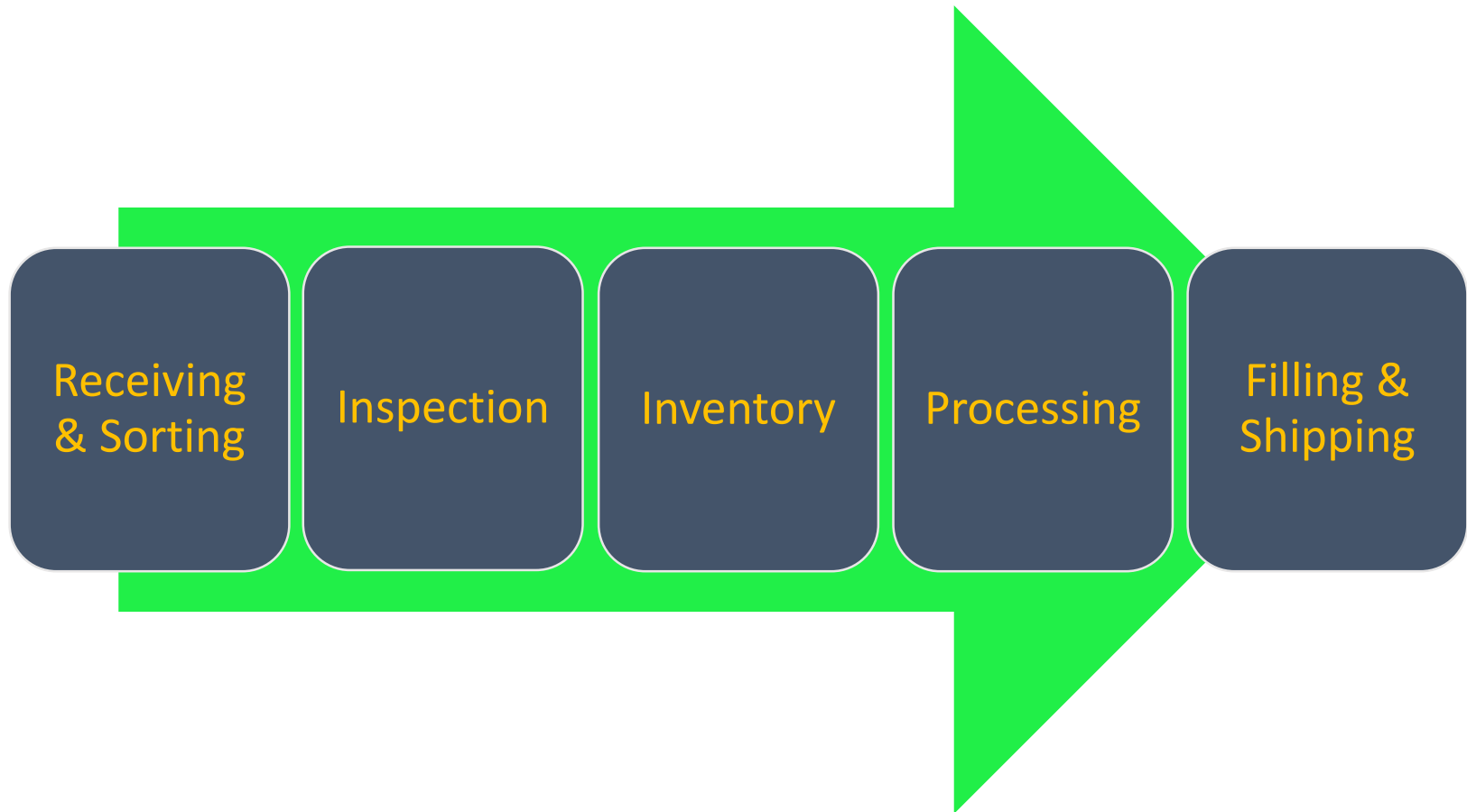
- Non-controlled medications packaged in their original sealed container or in tamper-evident packaging
- Non-expired or short-dated medications dated 6+ months
- Medical supplies and over-the-counter medications
- Must not require refrigeration

# Some Major Disease States Covered by Donated Medications

- Alzheimer's
- Asthma
- Behavioral Health
- Cardiac/Hypertension
- Cancer/Chemotherapy
- Depression
- Diabetes
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Parkinson's
- Renal Failure
- Seizures
- Transplant Rejection



# drug donation repository process



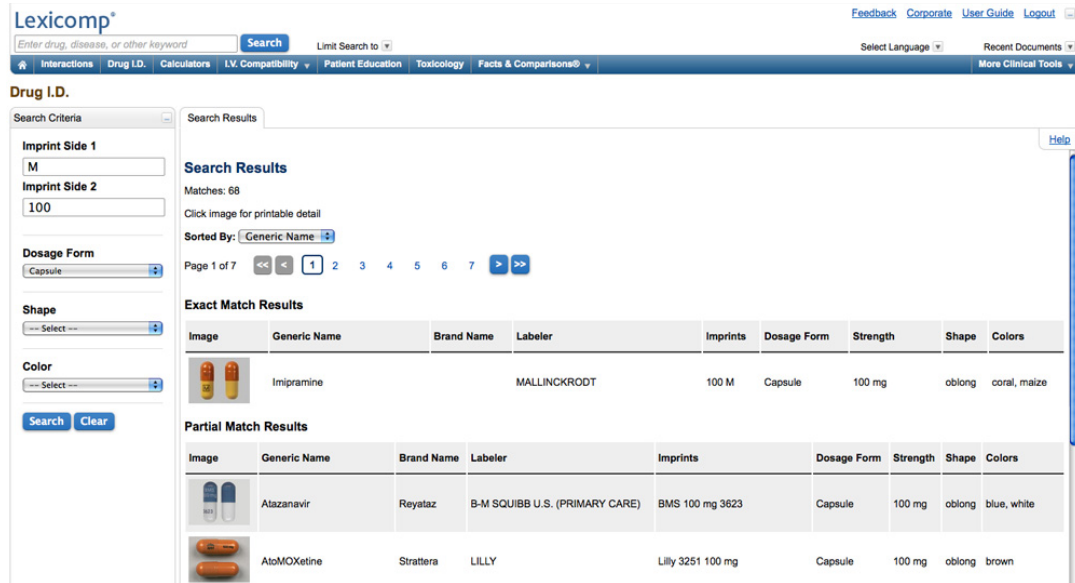
# receiving & sorting

- Once medications are received from a facility, medications are sorted prior to inspection
- Drugs not kept:
  - Tablets with no markings
  - Broken/split tablets
  - Controlled substances (CS)
  - Drug/label do not match
  - Short-dated or expired medications
  - Unusable packaging
- Unused medications are sent to incinerator, controlled drugs sent back to facility
- Drugs kept are sorted by name, strength, and dosage form



# inspection

- Once sorted, the pharmacist inspects each card to determine whether the drug is correctly labeled
  - Drug is identified using Facts and Comparisons/Lexicomp
  - Pharmacist looks at pill color, shape, imprint codes, and NDC
- Disposal of cards
  - Split or broken pills
  - Damaged/deteriorated
  - Packaging is punctured or ripped
  - Unidentifiable/no markings



Lexicomp®

Enter drug, disease, or other keyword  Search Limit Search to

Interactions Drug I.D. Calculators LV Compatibility Patient Education Toxicology Facts & Comparisons More Clinical Tools

Feedback Corporate User Guide Logout

Select Language Recent Documents

### Drug I.D.

Search Criteria

Imprint Side 1:

Imprint Side 2:

Dosage Form:

Shape:

Color:

Search Results


Matches: 68

Click image for printable detail



Sorted By:

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#### Exact Match Results

Image	Generic Name	Brand Name	Labeler	Imprints	Dosage Form	Strength	Shape	Colors
	Imipramine		MALLINCKRODT	100 M	Capsule	100 mg	oblong	coral, maize

#### Partial Match Results

Image	Generic Name	Brand Name	Labeler	Imprints	Dosage Form	Strength	Shape	Colors
	Atazanavir	Reyataz	B-M SQUIBB U.S. (PRIMARY CARE)	BMS 100 mg 3623	Capsule	100 mg	oblong	blue, white
	AtoMOxetine	Strattera	LILLY	Lilly 3251 100 mg	Capsule	100 mg	oblong	brown

# inventory



- Following inspection, the number of tablets or capsules on each card is counted and entered into inventory
- Medication and supply inventory is available online using a username and password
- An average retail value is assigned to each unit
- Inventory is then organized and put on the shelf

# processing

- After inventory, all medications are processed in accordance with Iowa Code 135M.4 and Iowa Administrative Rule Chapter 109
- All patient information is removed from each card per HIPAA compliance
- Drug name, strength, quantity, expiration and NDC remain on card
- Medications and supplies in bottles and all other forms undergo same process



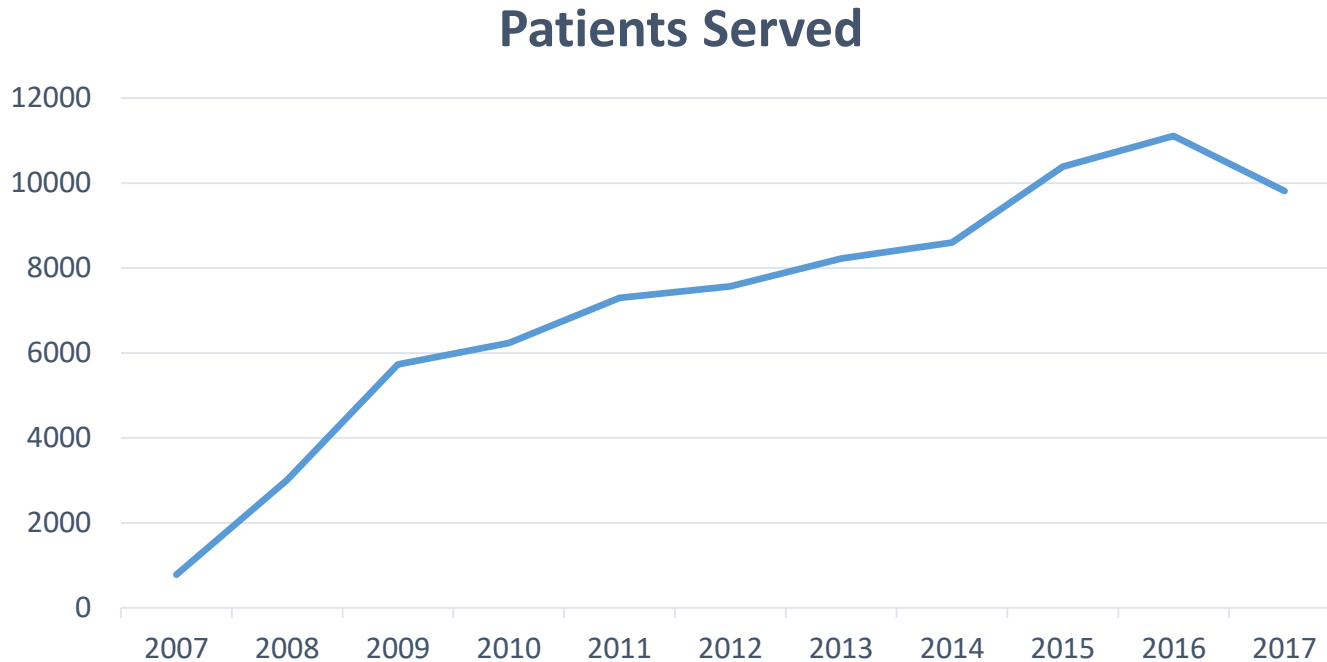
# filling & shipping



- Licensed as a Wholesale Distributor
- Medical facilities submit orders to SafeNetRx online, via email, phone or fax
- Approximately 250+ orders are filled each month
- All orders are filled and shipped via courier service or mail. In the event of an emergency, an order will be hand-delivered
- Orders are generally received 1-3 days after being placed

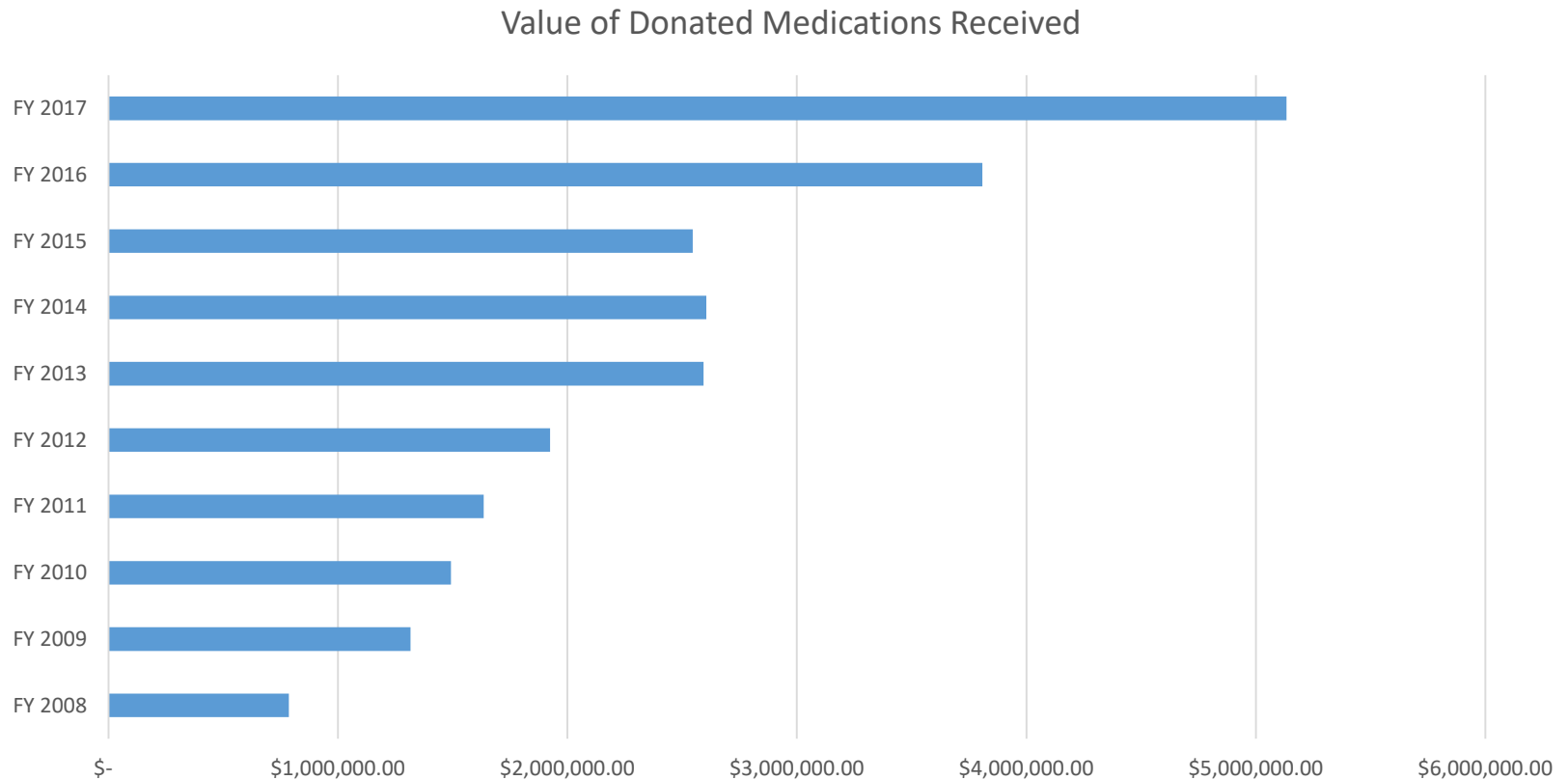


# Drug Donation Repository: Historical Performance



Over 78,000 Iowans have benefitted from donated medications and supplies

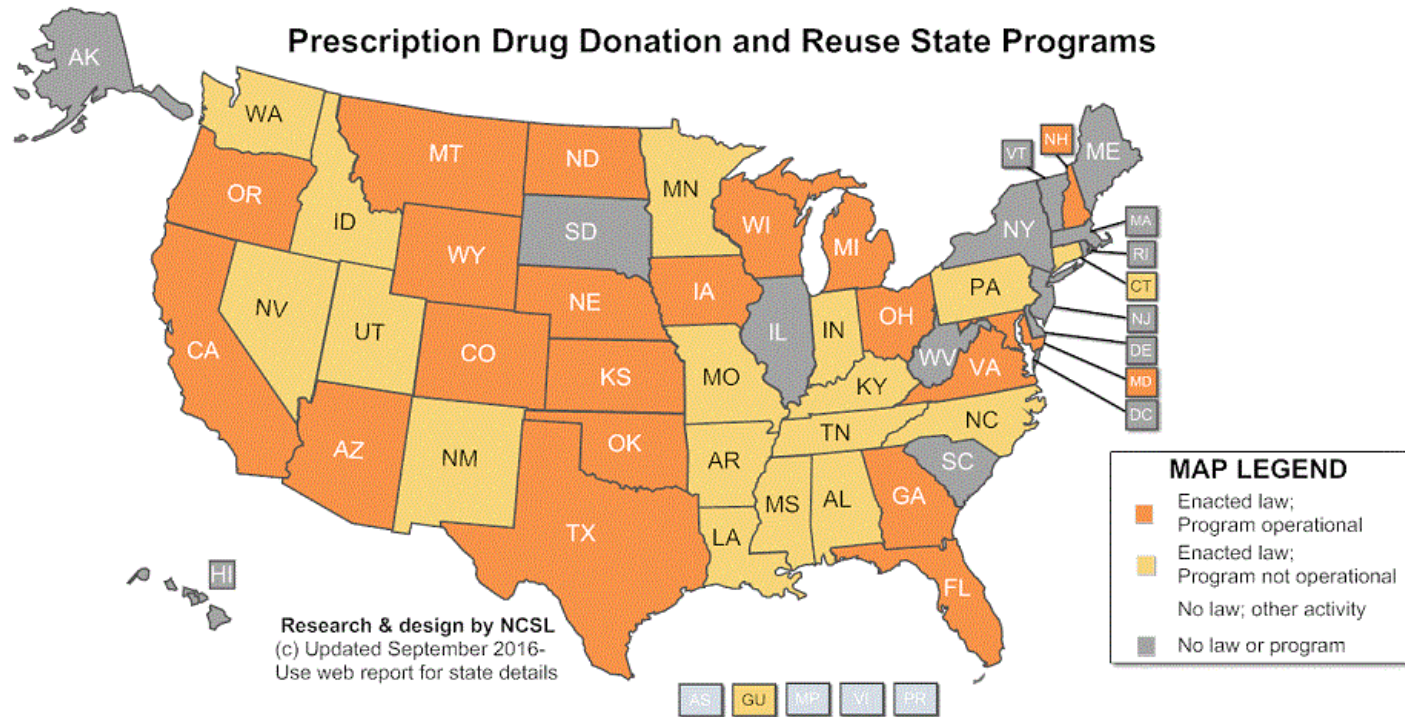
# Drug Donation Repository: Historical Performance



**\$23.8 Million** in donated medication and supplies



# drug donation across the country



## Nationwide Rx Reuse Snapshot

- **As of mid-2016, 42 states had passed laws establishing drug redistribution programs.** Many of these programs are not operational or small; a few successful programs are growing. A few measures have been repealed.
- **Twenty states currently have enacted laws with operational repository programs.**
- **Nineteen additional states are categorized as having non-operational enacted laws.**

# drug donation across the country

- [Wyoming's Medication Donation Program](#) was created in 2005 and has helped Wyoming residents fill over 125,000 prescriptions, adding up to over \$10 million.
- [Oklahoma](#) created its program in 2004 and has filled 193,926 prescriptions, worth about \$19,151,731 based on the average wholesale price of medication, through the end of June 2016.
- New York and New Hampshire are the latest states to enact return and reuse programs.
- Tennessee is refining administrative rules to launch a donation program.
- Florida is finalizing legislation for adoption.

# Drug Donation Repository: Return on Investment

- Iowa's Drug Donation Repository Program is the largest drug repository in the country.
- Over **78,000** have been provided medication and supplies since the program was established in 2007.\*
- Over **\$21.5 million** in free medical supplies and medications has been shipped to participating medical facilities and pharmacies.
- Over **230 medical facilities and pharmacies** partner with SafeNetRx to dispense donated medications to Iowans in need.
- Every **\$1** used to administer the program yields over **\$8** in donated medications and supplies.

\*Total based on number of patients served quarterly as reported by participating medical facilities and pharmacies.

# questions

**Jon Rosmann, CEO**

**[Jon.Rosmann@safenetrx.org](mailto:Jon.Rosmann@safenetrx.org)**

**515.327.5405**