



16 May 2024

The Honorable Mike Kelly
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Kelly:

On behalf of the THRIV Coalition for IV Accuracy, we applaud the introduction of the *Safer Compounding in Hospitals Act*. This act would serve to harness proven technology to reduce medication errors in drug compounding. This bill will establish a budget-neutral program within Medicare to incentivize the preparation and compounding of intravenous (IV) drugs for Medicare beneficiaries in the inpatient hospital setting. We urge Congress to pass this important legislation.

THRIV is a healthcare safety coalition seeking to protect patients from being harmed and caregivers from unwittingly doing harm as the result of IV preparation errors. We champion the use of proven technologies that ensure IVs are made accurately—preventing injury, saving lives, and improving quality of care.

The *Safer Compounding in Hospitals Act* will encourage the adoption of drug-compounding automation technology to help hospitals and health systems treating Medicare patients avoid costly medication errors and promote patient safety. Furthermore, this legislation will equip hospitals with onsite solutions to mitigate critical drug shortages that threaten to limit medical procedures and will help hospital pharmacies bridge gaps in their workforces.

Traditional manual IV compounding techniques inevitably result in clinically significant errors, including incorrect ingredients and volumes, contamination, and mislabeling. The Medicare program can significantly reduce the morbidity, mortality, and avoidable costs arising from medication errors by supporting hospitals in adopting innovative solutions for the preparation and compounding of IV drugs. Modern technology for IV compounding automation can virtually eliminate the errors associated with manual compounding techniques. In contrast to humans, IV automation excels at performing repetitive tasks without errors, performing precise “double-checks” to ensure accuracy, and minimizing the most common source of contamination (human hands) from the compounding process.

As Congress considers this important legislation, the THRIV coalition stands ready to serve as a resource on policies that promote patient safety and medication quality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Neuenschwander".

Mark Neuenschwander
Founding Director
mark@THRIVcoalition.org