

# Supply Chain Resource Council (SCRC) Report

December 2023 Meeting

## Executive Summary

Council members reviewed key product recalls and some of the strategies used in managing limited supplies. The council also discussed ongoing global and border challenges, and the continuity of the health care supply chain. More details can be found in the full report below.

### ▲ Shortage Updates

- **Cardinal Monoject™ Luer-Tip Syringes.** One large health system has established substitute syringes in place, and is exploring other product substitutes. [Click here](#) to review detailed information from the FDA regarding this recall.

It was mentioned that BD has placed allocations on current syringe orders to ensure they can meet existing customer demand.

The FDA issued a safety communication regarding syringes manufactured in China. More information can be found in the FDA notice below:

#### **Plastic Syringes Made in China Being Evaluated for Potential Device Failures**

FDA

A safety communication has been issued to inform health care providers and health care facilities that the FDA is evaluating the potential for device failures (such as, leaks, breakage, particles in the syringes, and other problems) with plastic syringes manufactured in China. [Read more.](#)

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFDA/bulletins/37d924b>

- **Eye Lubricant.** At this time, it does not appear that this recall is impacting or affecting patient care. [Click here](#) to review detailed information from the FDA regarding this recall.
- **Sterile Saline and Water.** Council members shared that they are utilizing bags of sterile saline and water in place of the bottles. At this time there appears to be no impact to bag inventory availability. [Click here](#) to review detailed the company announcement shared by the FDA regarding the Nurse Assist, LLC recall.
- **1000ml Baxter Sterile Water for Irrigation.** One council member stated that it's been almost four weeks since they've received a shipment of product. Their interim strategy is to use a quad pack, however this is not an ideal solution. Once the packaging is opened, the remaining product is good for 30 days. This requires the supply chain staff to label each bottle with the unique 30 day expiration date. Another council member stated that their clinical staff requested supply chain label their irrigation bags as such so there would be no confusion that the bags were IV solution. In conversations, Baxter has mentioned improving inventory supplies by Q1 2024, however there are concerns from supply chain leaders that product availability will not improve in the short run.

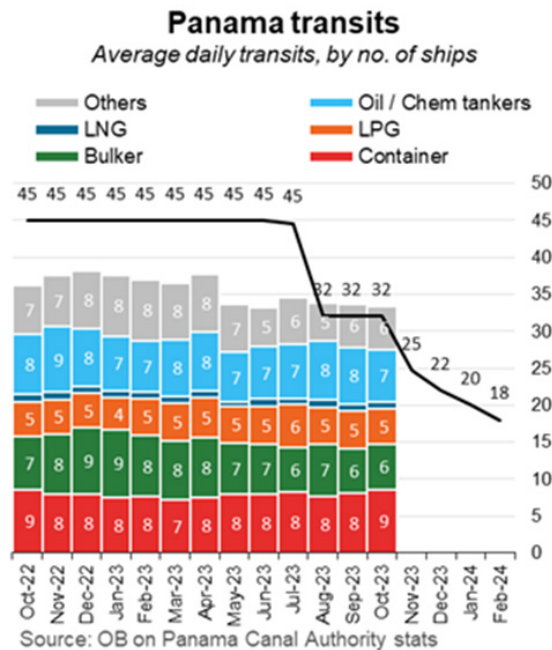
### ▲ Supply Chain Watch List – supply shortages causing concern in the field

- **3M surgical clippers**
- **Arrow Introducer Sheath with guide wire, 6 Fr, 11cm**
- **Edwards FloTrac sensor with VAMP adult system, 60 in/ 152 cm**
- **Integra CSF Drainage Systems. Catalog #INS8400** (*see attached cross reference table*)

- **Armstrong Medical (various):**  
Intubation  
7700RIN, 7700PIN, 7700YIN, 7700WIN, 7700BIN, 7700OIN, 7700GIN  
  
Oxygen Delivery  
7700RAW, 7700PAW, 7700YAW, 7700WAW, 7700BAW, 7700OAW, 7700GAW  
  
I.V. Delivery  
7700RIV, 7700PIV, 7700YIV, 7700WIV, 7700BIV, 7700OIV, 7700GIV  
  
Intraosseous  
7700RIO, 7700PIO, 7700YIO, 7700WIO, 7700BIO, 7700OIO, 7700GIO

▲ **Global Supply Chain Watch List – current situations under observation**

- **Panama Canal.** Drought conditions continue to cause low water levels in the fresh water lake that supports the Panama Canal. Vessel transits have been further reduced to 22 as of December 1st down from 25 as of November 3rd. Should drought conditions persist, Canal authorities have indicated vessel transits could be reduced to as low as 18 starting Feb 1, 2024. Below is a graphic shared by Kyle McKinnon, Senior Director, Operational Excellence at Premier Inc. that highlights the average daily transits through the Panama Canal.



Abby Pratt, Senior Vice President, Global Strategy & Analysis, Staff Lead, Supply Chain at AdvaMed shared that they have polled their members to determine what, if any, impact this might have on medical supplies and equipment. Manufacturer responses at this time state that they are using west coast ports or air transportation.

One area of that AdvaMed has been tracking the past couple of months, and has heard concerns from key companies, is the southwest boarder situation. Enhanced inspections or border closures have the potential to become highly disruptive and can cause delays. These companies typically have their own trucks to transport medical products. As a result, AdvaMed is working with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), the FDA and USG to explore options that would expedite border crossings for these vehicles.

[Click here](#) to review a December 18th article from the Association of American Railroads (AAR) which has called on U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) to reopen international crossings at Eagle Pass and El Paso, Texas, which serve as key arteries for the North American rail network.

- **Escalation of Houthi attacks on freight vessels in the Red Seas.** An item shared post-meeting and one that is drawing increased attention is the level of Houthi attacks on ocean tankers, freight, and container ships.

## About the Supply Chain Resource Council (SCRC)

The Supply Chain Resource Council (SCRC) is comprised of more than 90 supply chain and health care leaders from across the health care field with the goal of understanding the extent and impact supply shortages and disruptions are having within the hospital and patient care settings, as well as a capturing and documenting solutions to these challenges. Information collected during these calls is drafted into a report and shared with AHA, AHRMM and Professional Management Group (PMG) leaders, the White House Response Team, various Federal Agencies and the broader health care field. *The content of this report represents information, strategies and solutions from SCRC members but does not necessarily reflect policy positions of the AHA.*