

Practice-Changing Pharmacy Updates: Pain Points & Solutions

Discuss the First Med for COVID-19 Post-Exposure Prophylaxis



⚠ Pain Point: *Regen-COV* (casirivimab/imdevimab) is now authorized for post-exposure prophylaxis for COVID-19. There's a lot of buzz about using this injectable monoclonal antibody combo to prevent COVID-19 following an exposure, especially with cases on the rise. [The PREP Act](#) has also been amended to grant pharmacists the authority to order and administer *Regen-COV* and other FDA-authorized, approved, licensed, or cleared COVID-19 therapeutics. It also authorizes pharmacy interns and pharmacy technicians to administer these COVID-19 therapeutics.

🌀 Solution: Our [Hospital Pharmacist's Letter](#), [Hospital Pharmacy Technician's Letter](#), [Pharmacist's Letter](#), [Pharmacy Technician's Letter](#), and [Prescriber's Letter](#) articles describe which patients are eligible, dosage and administration facts, required monitoring, etc. Information needed to help patients make an informed decision, and to update *Regen-COV* protocols to include post-exposure prophylaxis, is provided in our algorithm, "[Mabs](#)" for COVID-19. Our chart, [Treatments of Interest for COVID-19](#), outlines additional details, including the new evidence supporting the indication.

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Free Download!

Community Pharmacies

Explain Why *Semglee* Will Be “Interchangeable” With *Lantus*

⚠ Pain Point: *Semglee* (insulin glargine-yfgn U-100) will be the first “interchangeable” biosimilar drug. It was originally approved as a new brand of insulin glargine, not a *Lantus* generic, and switching required a new prescription. Now that's changing.

🌀 Solution: Our [Pharmacist's Letter](#), [Pharmacy Technician's Letter](#), and [Prescriber's Letter](#) articles explain what an “interchangeable” biosimilar drug is, and how it's different from a biosimilar or a generic drug. The articles provide recommendations about how to handle product substitution, ways to ensure state law requirements are met, and how to prevent errors. Our FAQ, [Facts About Biosimilars](#), includes additional talking points for patients. Our chart, [Comparison of Insulins](#), highlights how *Semglee* stacks up to other insulin products.

Hospital Pharmacies

Protect Yourself from Overuse Injuries

⚠ Pain Point: Tasks commonly performed by hospital pharmacy technicians can lead to overuse injuries of the hands and arms. Technicians may experience symptoms such as pain, swelling, and tingling. These injuries can be progressive and can lead to technicians being limited in the amount of time they can do their jobs without rest, or taking acetaminophen or NSAIDs to be able to function.

🌀 Solution: Our [Hospital Pharmacy Technician's Letter](#) article describes why hospital pharmacy technicians may be at risk for overuse injuries, along with symptoms that may indicate problems. Practical advice is provided about being proactive to reduce the risk and to prevent these injuries. Technicians can independently incorporate most of these strategies into their workflow. Technicians who are training other technicians are also encouraged to emphasize these preventive strategies.

Natural Medicines



Coffee Concerns Calmed

⚠ Pain Point: Over the years, there have been a lot of mixed signals about the safety of coffee, especially in relation to cardiovascular health. But the most recent research, which is also the highest quality research to date, suggests that coffee is not only likely to be safe for most people, but it may also be beneficial (when used in moderation, of course).

🌀 Solution: Our [Natural Medicines article](#) explains recent research that has found that, despite previous concerns, coffee does not seem to increase the risk for high blood pressure or a fast or irregular heartbeat. And some research also suggests that regular coffee consumption can reduce the risk for death from heart disease and may even reduce the risk for heart failure in some people. However, these benefits are likely to disappear when coffee is consumed in excess. In this article, we provide guidance for counseling patients about coffee consumption.

Product Spotlight

This issue, we feature our **RxAdvanced training programs**—elevated training for today's expert pharmacists.

[RxAdvanced](#) offers affordable, relevant training programs for pharmacists in critical subjects to help them keep pace and practice with confidence.

With scalable, cost-effective package options, you can choose from flexible purchasing plans, suited for enterprise-wide use. Pay for as many, or as few, programs to meet your pharmacy's needs. With RxAdvanced, managers get simplified reports to document completions and quickly spot learners who aren't finished. In addition, this program is designed to help confirm expertise with built-in skill checks.

[RxAdvanced](#) hosts a suite of programs including:

- Antimicrobial Stewardship
- Anticoagulation Management
- Hazardous Drugs *in partnership with CriticalPoint*
- Sterile Compounding *in partnership with CriticalPoint*
- Opioid Stewardship
- Guide to Natural Medicines
- Leadership & Communication

RxAdvanced is available to purchase as an institutional group. Support your pharmacists by adding RxAdvanced to your pharmacist training program!

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New in the COVID-19 Resource Hub

Our editors continue to add new articles and clinical resources to the COVID-19 Resource Hub. Access to the hub is free - no subscription required. Recent additions and updates include:

- Article: [Clear Up Confusion About Additional COVID-19 Vaccine Doses](#)
- Article: [Add Post-Exposure Prophylaxis to Regen-COV Protocols](#)
- Chart: [Treatments of Interest for COVID-19](#)

[Visit the COVID-19 Resource Hub](#)

News & Events

Hot Topic Webinar

We offer on-demand webinars for you to enjoy at your leisure.

For the month of September, we have a new webinar available on demand that features an expert panel discussion and clinical guidance on **Treatment of Resistant Hypertension**. Listen as Steven E. Nissen, MD, MACC Chairman, Department of Cardiovascular Medicine Cleveland Clinic Foundation, and other panelists discuss and answer common clinical questions. Click [here](#) to watch for free.



[Check out our other on-demand webinars here.](#)

TRC Healthcare Sponsored Webinar

October 22, 2021, 1-1:20 pm ET: *Training Technicians for USP <800> Compliance*

TRC Healthcare is sponsoring a free webinar through Pharmacy Purchasing & Products (PP&P) where CriticalPoint's Abby Roth, CMQ/QE, QP503A Qualified, will be speaking. She'll be discussing the challenges that pharmacies face in training technicians to demonstrate competence and compliance, especially regarding USP <800> guidelines. And she'll provide strategies that pharmacists can use to maximize the capabilities of a fully trained technician support system. Don't miss out! [Register here.](#)



CriticalPoint Upcoming Webinars

October 20, 1:00 pm ET: *Operator Conduct in Sterile Compounding Environments*

Operator conduct and aseptic technique are not discussed in detail in the current and 2019 version of USP <797>. This lack of direction leaves many sterile compounding organizations unsure of the best ways to guarantee patient safety. This webinar will discuss CriticalPoint's best practice recommendations for operator conduct within the compounding environment and aseptic technique as well as what to incorporate in facility standard operating procedures (SOPs) and training. Presented by Melanie Dorey, RPhT, QP503A. [Register today!](#)

[Click here to check out all upcoming CriticalPoint webinars](#)

Our Most Popular Articles/Charts for September



- Hospital Pharmacist's Letter: [Pharmacotherapy of Neuropathic Pain](#)
- Hospital Pharmacy Technician's Letter: [Inpatient Use of Ambulatory Pumps](#)
- Pharmacist's Letter: [Comparison of ADHD Medications](#)
- Pharmacy Technician's Letter: [Comparison of Insulins](#)
- Prescriber's Letter: [Foot Infections in Patients With Diabetes](#)



Continuing Education

TRC's accredited learning center for medication management offers continuing education in 13 categories, including:

- Disease State Management / Drug Therapy
- HIV / AIDS
- Law
- General Pharmacy
- Patient Safety / Medication Errors
- Archived Webinars
- Competency
- Compliance
- Hospital / Specialty
- Preceptor
- Training
- Immunization
- Compounding



FREE DOWNLOAD! SEPTEMBER CE COURSE CATALOG

Check out our latest CE Course Catalog featuring new courses offered for September, general CE, live CE/CME, patient safety, and more!

[Click here to download](#)

