Coalition Building

USP will lead and power a stakeholder movement for quality to advance public health and patient safety.

Year 2 Update

The medicines supply chain is complex, so strengthening its resilience to help ensure patients have the quality medicine they need when they need it requires many perspectives, broad expertise, and holistic approaches. Through engagements with the USP Convention and building and participating in coalitions, USP connects with other leaders around the world to elevate and advance critical conversations that inform strategies, action, and policies to help build a stronger and more resilient medicines supply chain.

Key areas of progress over the past fiscal year include:

**USP Convention Regional Chapters** – The USP Convention Regional Chapters continued to bring together Convention Members on shared priorities, thereby deepening connections and advancing critical dialogues. Through these engagements, Members received updates on USP’s work and provided input and shared knowledge. Highlights include:

- The Convention’s Middle East and North Africa Regional Chapter launched with 60+ Member representatives in attendance. The meeting resulted in four areas of focus for the Chapter: biologics, capability building, technical assistance for lab accreditation, and implementation of risk-based post-marketing surveillance.

- The Latin America Regional Chapter convened 100+ Members and stakeholders to share strategies and best practices for regulating cannabis across the region.

- The Asia Pacific Regional Chapter convened with 100+ Member representatives in attendance. Presenters and attendees addressed supply chain resilience, impurities, and advanced therapies.

**Supply Chain Resilience Dialogue and Insights** – USP hosted a three-part Convention Exchange series on supporting a resilient medicines supply chain, which convened Members from across Sectors. Diverse perspectives were shared to inform policymakers’ understanding of supply chain vulnerabilities, their potential impact on the availability of quality medicines, and USP solutions to bolster supply chain resilience. The series included the following events:
“A Shared Imperative: Building a Resilient Pharmaceutical Supply Chain” explored ways to reduce barriers to adoption of advanced manufacturing technology. Focus areas included investments, policy reforms, and use of quality standards to foster efficient production of critical medicines using innovative manufacturing methods.

“Preparedness: Bolstering Key Points Along the Medicines Supply Chain” provided a forum for attendees and USP experts to discuss requirements for establishing a continuous cycle of preparedness to ensure an effective crisis response. Topics included funding, training, staffing, data collection, and health equity.

“Preserving a Quality Supply of Antimicrobials and Combatting Antimicrobial Resistance” addressed ensuring broad access to affordable medicines, proper stewardship of existing antimicrobial treatments, and investments in development of new treatments. The discussion also included a review of research describing the link between poor-quality medicines and antimicrobial resistance.

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum – The USP-APEC Supply Chain Center of Excellence hosted an event on “Confronting Substandard and Falsified COVID-19 Vaccines and Treatments” in partnership with the Pharmaceutical Security Institute, Moderna, and Sanofi. The workshop was attended by 75+ regulators and key stakeholders from Asia and the Americas. USP also assumed the lead for the APEC Task Force on Post-Market Surveillance and contributed to the APEC Task Force on Internet Pharmacies, led by the Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies.

Coalitions for a Resilient Supply of Quality Medicines – In addition to leading coalitions, USP continued to participate in several coalitions formed by other organizations. This allowed us to combine our expertise, knowledge, and resources with that of others for greater impact.

- The Pharmaceutical Supply and Payment Coalition is led by the Pharmaceutical Care Management Association and consists of payers, industry, and pharmacy groups.
- The Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council, a coalition of both government and private sector public health groups, is a public/private partnership of key stakeholders created to facilitate information sharing on issues such as the supply of medicines, devices, and related healthcare equipment, e.g., personal protective equipment.
- The Fight the Fakes Alliance, a multi-sectoral initiative dedicated to eliminating substandard and falsified medicines from the supply chain, publicly distributed information on COVID-19 vaccine administration, and co-hosted the #StopFakeMeds Twitter Chat as part of World Antimicrobial Awareness Week.
- A coalition led by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists on supply chain resilience developed several recommendations that were included in legislation, including the PREVENTS Act and COMPETES Act.

Planned for Year 3

- In collaboration with FDA, USP will release an infographic on biosimilars quality aimed at helping healthcare practitioners and patients have informed conversations about using biosimilars.
» USP will launch the Innovation Sector of the Convention through a three-part series that convenes Members to explore strategies for ensuring quality in healthcare innovations.

» Sectors and Chapters of the USP Convention will convene in conjunction with the development and release of a comprehensive USP supply chain report, tentatively titled “A Holistic View of the Global Medicines Supply Chain and Recommendations to Improve Resilience and Ensure Access to Quality Medicines.”

» USP will collaborate with FDA and other APEC partners to convene an in-person event on the medical product supply chain during the APEC USA 2023 host year.

Contact
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