

ment of Health and Human Services with expertise regarding drug shortages. The Secretary shall engage external stakeholders and experts as appropriate.

**(2) Timing**

Not later than 1 year after July 9, 2012, the task force shall—

- (A) publish the strategic plan described in paragraph (1); and
- (B) submit such plan to Congress.

**(b) Communication**

The Secretary shall ensure that, prior to any enforcement action or issuance of a warning letter that the Secretary determines could reasonably be anticipated to lead to a meaningful disruption in the supply in the United States of a drug described under section 356c(a) of this title, there is communication with the appropriate office of the Food and Drug Administration with expertise regarding drug shortages regarding whether the action or letter could cause, or exacerbate, a shortage of the drug.

**(c) Action**

If the Secretary determines, after the communication described in subsection (b), that an enforcement action or a warning letter could reasonably cause or exacerbate a shortage of a drug described under section 356c(a) of this title, then the Secretary shall evaluate the risks associated with the impact of such shortage upon patients and those risks associated with the violation involved before taking such action or issuing such letter, unless there is imminent risk of serious adverse health consequences or death to humans.

**(d) Reporting by other entities**

The Secretary shall identify or establish a mechanism by which health care providers and other third-party organizations may report to the Secretary evidence of a drug shortage.

**(e) Review and construction**

No determination, finding, action, or omission of the Secretary under this section shall—

- (1) be subject to judicial review; or
- (2) be construed to establish a defense to an enforcement action by the Secretary.

**(f) Sunset**

Subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) shall cease to be effective on the date that is 5 years after July 9, 2012.

(June 25, 1938, ch. 675, §506D, as added Pub. L. 112-144, title X, §1003, July 9, 2012, 126 Stat. 1103.)

**§ 356e. Drug shortage list**

**(a) Establishment**

The Secretary shall maintain an up-to-date list of drugs that are determined by the Secretary to be in shortage in the United States.

**(b) Contents**

For each drug on such list, the Secretary shall include the following information:

- (1) The name of the drug in shortage, including the National Drug Code number for such drug.
- (2) The name of each manufacturer of such drug.

(3) The reason for the shortage, as determined by the Secretary, selecting from the following categories:

- (A) Requirements related to complying with good manufacturing practices.
- (B) Regulatory delay.
- (C) Shortage of an active ingredient.
- (D) Shortage of an inactive ingredient component.
- (E) Discontinuance of the manufacture of the drug.
- (F) Delay in shipping of the drug.
- (G) Demand increase for the drug.

(4) The estimated duration of the shortage as determined by the Secretary.

**(c) Public availability**

**(1) In general**

Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the Secretary shall make the information in such list publicly available.

**(2) Trade secrets and confidential information**

Nothing in this section alters or amends section 1905 of title 18 or section 552(b)(4) of title 5.

**(3) Public health exception**

The Secretary may choose not to make information collected under this section publicly available under paragraph (1) or section 356c(c) of this title if the Secretary determines that disclosure of such information would adversely affect the public health (such as by increasing the possibility of hoarding or other disruption of the availability of drug products to patients).

(June 25, 1938, ch. 675, §506E, as added Pub. L. 112-144, title X, §1004, July 9, 2012, 126 Stat. 1104; amended Pub. L. 114-255, div. A, title III, §3101(a)(2)(G), Dec. 13, 2016, 130 Stat. 1153.)

AMENDMENTS

2016—Subsec. (b)(3)(E). Pub. L. 114-255, which directed substitution of “discontinuance” for “discontinuation”, was executed by substituting “Discontinuance” for “Discontinuation” to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

**§ 356f. Hospital repackaging of drugs in shortage**

**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

**(1) Drug**

The term “drug” excludes any controlled substance (as such term is defined in section 802 of this title).

**(2) Health system**

The term “health system” means a collection of hospitals that are owned and operated by the same entity and that share access to databases with drug order information for their patients.

**(3) Repackage**

For the purposes of this section only, the term “repackage”, with respect to a drug, means to divide the volume of a drug into smaller amounts in order to—

- (A) extend the supply of a drug in response to the placement of the drug on a drug