



Pharmacy  
Compounding  
Foundation

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### ***National Survey Shows Strong Public Support for Pharmacy Compounding***

*Awareness Gaps, Lack of Knowledge About the Practice's Strict Standards Suggest Need for More Education*

WASHINGTON, DC — February 25, 2025— A [new national poll](#) conducted for the [Pharmacy Compounding Foundation](#) by [Embold Research](#) shows strong public support for pharmacy compounding's critical role in filling gaps in the U.S. drug supply and meeting individual patient needs. Results also reveal a lack of awareness about the industry's strict regulatory and quality standards.

"Across demographics, public sentiment overwhelmingly supports the ability of compounding pharmacies to provide essential healthcare services and combat drug shortages," said Betsy App, senior pollster at Embold Research.

The survey of 1,222 adults nationwide assessed public sentiment on compounding pharmacies and their role in the healthcare system. Key findings include:

- Among respondents who have used compounding pharmacies, over three-quarters (79%) report having a positive experience. However, only 42% of adults are familiar with pharmacy compounding, and 29% are unsure about what it is.
- 87% of respondents correctly recognized that a doctor, nurse practitioner, or other licensed prescriber must prescribe compounded medications.
- Nearly a third (31%) of respondents lack awareness of the industry's strict regulatory standards.
- More than two-thirds of respondents (64%) believe licensed prescribers should have the authority to prescribe compounded medications when no FDA-approved drug is appropriate for the patient.
- A significant majority of respondents (84%) believe it is important that compounding pharmacies have the ability to prepare copies of an FDA-approved drug when that drug is in shortage.

"Even though pharmacists have been preparing custom formulations for individuals and ensuring patient access during hundreds of other drug shortages long before the advent of GLP-1s, the public's lack of knowledge of such a foundational pharmacy practice is eye-opening," said Scott Brunner, CEO of the Alliance for Pharmacy Compounding. "The poll results tell me we've still got education work to do to inoculate Americans against dangerous efforts by drug manufacturers to conflate compounded drugs with illegal fakes."

Compounding pharmacists prepare customized medications prescribed by healthcare professionals to meet the individual needs of children, adults, and animals. Those can include tailored dosage strengths or forms not available in a manufactured drug. As authorized by federal law, compounders may also create a copy of a commercially available U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved product when that drug is on the FDA's drug shortages list. In the past 24 months, that list has included lidocaine, pediatric amoxicillin suspension, GLP1 drugs, and many others – shortages compounding pharmacies have stepped in to help alleviate by preparing copies of those FDA-approved drugs.

While strong support exists for compounding pharmacies, poll results indicate a distinct lack of awareness about the industry's regulatory framework. Compounding pharmacies are required to adhere to the rigorous compounding standards of the United States Pharmacopeia and are licensed and regularly inspected by state boards of pharmacy.

Survey findings suggest pharmacists and other healthcare professionals, who respondents indicate are their most trusted sources for accurate health information about compounded medications, could be the key to bridging awareness gaps.

"This research shows we have a real opportunity to work with healthcare professionals to educate patients about pharmacy compounding to ensure continued confidence in compounded therapies," said Jennifer Burch, PharmD, RPh, CDCES, FNCAP, FAPC, president of the Pharmacy Compounding Foundation.

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#### **About the Pharmacy Compounding Foundation**

The nonprofit 501(c)(3) Pharmacy Compounding Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Alliance for Pharmacy Compounding, the industry's trade association. The Foundation supports the quality, integrity, and advancement of pharmacy compounding and its practitioners to benefit all patients by supporting research, education, and awareness programs.