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### Parent Guide: Navigating ADD/ADHD Medication Shortages

As of late 2022, we began to see shortages in certain medications used to treat ADD/ADHD and, unfortunately, it is unclear when the shortage will end. The situation continues to be tremendously frustrating for caregivers, patients, providers, teachers, pharmacies, etc. As we continue to struggle with these shortages, we want to offer support to parents and patients, and need the help of parents and patients in return.

#### Parent Role

- Make sure that your child is up to date on his/her well child exam (due every 12 months) AND has had an ADD/ADHD visit within the last 6 months.
- 1 week before medication runs out, call your preferred pharmacy to assure they have in stock BOTH the medication (make sure to specify if generic or brand is needed) and the quantity needed
- If your preferred pharmacy does not have either the medication or the quantity needed, please call another pharmacy to assure both are available
- Once you've verified the medication and quantity are available at a pharmacy, please call our office (512-458-5323; press extension 3, then extension 1) and leave a voice mail asking for the prescription to be called in. **On the voice mail, please leave your child's name, date of birth, medication name (including if it's brand or generic), strength of medication, desired quantity, and pharmacy name and location.**

#### PAA Role

- PAA will check the prescription refill voice mailbox at least twice daily, on weekdays
- As soon as your request is received, we will notify your child's prescribing physician of the refill request
- Your doctor will send the medication to the pharmacy within 2 business days after he/she receives the request. Please note, each doctor is regularly out of the office one weekday each week. If the request is received on his/her out day, the medication will not be sent until the next business day. They do try their best to clear their request box prior to being out of the office. In the event the doctor is away from the office for more than their single weekly out day, the nurses will either ask another doctor to refill the medication or call the parent to discuss other options.
- PAA does not routinely call to let parents know that a prescription was sent in but relies on the pharmacy to notify the parent.

Once the medication dose is established and is working well, we recommend reaching out to your insurance company and determining if they contract with a mail order pharmacy. We can legally send 3 months of medication at one time, and this can be filled by a mail order pharmacy; however, each insurance company has different stipulations.