RE: Docket No. 98N-1265

5.17.99

TO the FDA:

As a consumer of healthcare services, I vehemently disagree with the Memorandum of Understanding as published by the FDA on Jan. 1, 1999.

In its present form, the MOU as well as the Compounding Section 503A of the Memorandum Act severely restricts the rights of the physicians and patients to obtain healthcare products from the provider of their choice. It also infringes on the rights of the compounding pharmacists to serve the public's medical needs.

I personally have spent several thousand dollars in the desperate search for cause and treatment of debilitating hormonal imbalance. I continue to spend every cent I can spare after paying for life's bare necessities on compounded medication to be able to function - If I have to give that up - it will be the same as giving up on life - And that is no exaggeration. Even the simple universal

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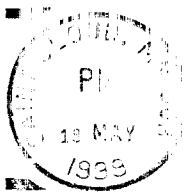
"bandaid" to the problem - antidepressants doesn't begin to "cure" the problem. We can get to the root of the problem and correct it - but only with compounded medications. As it is, these compounding pharmacies are very limited - but at least they are a start to relieving medical insufficiencies to thousands of patients. Medicine is only just beginning to realize the practice should be more concerned with maintaining good health - not waiting until the damage is so severe it takes years to regain good health. I plead with you not to inhibit what progress (help and hope) is being made.

As a healthcare consumer, there should be no restrictions to the delivery of compounded medication prescribed for me regardless of where I live or travel. The MOU must be amended!

The FDA's job is to be a "watchdog" for consumer safety. This issue most certainly does not fall under that category. The FDA has the responsibility of being accountable to the people. So amend the MOU, PLEASE!!

Colette Sparby
Minnesota

Colette Sparby
RR1 Box 281
Ortonville, Mn 56278



Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD

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