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Preparing and obtaining quality compounded ophthalmic preparations

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Ophthalmic medications are often compounded by medical staff, nursing staff, or pharmacists because they are not commercially available. If these medications are not properly compounded, it can result in painful infections, loss of vision, or even loss of the eye. There are USP standards on how to prepare these compounded medications in a protected environment to ensure patient safety. In 2013, Congress passed the Drug Quality and Tracking Act to set legal standards for preparing and obtaining good quality compounded medications to prevent tragedies, such as the meningitis outbreak with NECC, endotoxin contamination causing toxic anterior segment syndrome, or fungal infections from compounded brilliant blue G intravitreal injections.

This presentation provides an overview on how to properly and safely prepare quality ophthalmic preparations that meet standards within a practice setting. It also provides information on how to outsource compounding services to a qualified compounding pharmacy or outsourcing facility with a review of the new Drug Quality and Tracking Act.

Biography

Linda McElhiney received her BS in Pharmacy from Purdue University in 1984 and her PharmD from the University of Florida in 2002. She is currently a graduate student at the University of Florida and anticipates receiving her Masters with a focus on Institutional Leadership in August 2004. She is the Compounding Pharmacy Operations Coordinator the Indiana University Health health-system, consisting of 21 hospitals. She has published more than 45 papers in peer-reviewed journals, written chapters for textbooks, and is the book author of **Compounding Guide for Ophthalmic Preparations** (APhA 2013). She currently serves on the USP Committee of Experts for Compounding and is a full fellow in the International Academy of Compounding Pharmacists, American Society of Health-system Pharmacists, and the American College of Apothecaries.

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