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Collaborative for Evidence-Based Medicines Launches to Champion Evidence-Based Medicines and Patient Safety in Drug Compounding

Provider-led organization unites health professionals, patient advocates, academics, and other stakeholders around evidence-based medicines and patient protection

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Monday, July 20, 2026 — The Collaborative for Evidence-Based Medicines: Putting Patient Safety First ("CEBM" or "The Collaborative") today announced its launch as a national provider-led organization advancing evidence-backed medicines, safe compounding, and stronger oversight and accountability to protect patients.

CEBM formed to bring a real-world provider voice to public policy issues impacting patient safety. Recent state and federal policy debates related to drug compounding have been framed as pitting manufacturers versus compounders. That framing is false – and it doesn't serve patients. CEBM's concern is patient safety, not commercial interests. CEBM recognizes that compounding is an important and longstanding component of pharmacy practice and remains essential for certain patients with individualized clinical needs. But practices that bypass critical evidence and quality safeguards, including sourcing active ingredients from unregistered facilities, marketing unapproved products as safe and effective or equivalent to FDA-approved medicines, offering unproven so-called "personalized" compounded products at scale, and operating outside of sterility and quality standards put patient at risk.

Led by a Board of pharmacists, doctors, and regulatory professionals, the Collaborative brings together allies including providers, patient advocates, academics, consumer groups, manufacturers, and other stakeholders committed to putting patient safety first. The organization's priorities include protecting patients from mass-marketed, unapproved compounded drugs, advancing science-based regulation, and strengthening oversight across the compounding supply chain.

"Legitimate compounding plays an essential role in patient care—addressing true clinical needs such as known allergies or pediatric dosage modifications where FDA-approved medicines cannot meet a specific patient's need. But mass-producing unproven drugs and marketing them directly to consumers under the guise of personalization is not compounding, it is exploitation. The Collaborative exists to draw that line clearly, support better enforcement of existing laws, and ensure that every patient in America can trust the medicines they receive," said John B. Hertig, PharmD, MS, CPPS, FASHP, FFIP, Chair of the CEBM Board of Directors.

"As a physician, I see firsthand the consequences when patients receive products that haven't been rigorously tested for safety and efficacy. Patients trust that the medications they're prescribed meet a high scientific standard—and too often, mass-marketed compounded drugs fall short of that expectation. As providers, we established CEBM to demand better on behalf of our patients," said Dr. Adonis Saremi, MD, MS, DABOM, CEBM Board Member.

CEBM's Board is already engaging directly with federal policymakers — including this week where Board Chair Hertig will present at FDA's PCAC meeting on several unapproved peptides (see CEBM comments here). Individual Board members have also personally testified before state legislatures on compounding oversight in Indiana, Iowa, and Washington, , in addition to submitting comments to numerous state legislatures and Boards of Pharmacy.

CEBM's policy positions are set exclusively by its Board of Directors — pharmacists, physicians, and patient safety experts serving in their individual professional capacities. Other stakeholders, including manufacturers, take part in CEBM's broader network of participants, but do not serve on the Board and have no vote or veto over the Collaborative's policy positions.

Professionally and geographically diverse, CEBM's founding board members include:

- John Hertig, PharmD, MS, CPPS, FASHP, FFIP — Chair; Indiana - Hospital pharmacist and medication safety expert
- Michael Stepanovic, PharmD, MS — Vice Chair; North Carolina - Pharmacist, academic, and entrepreneur
- Dr. Adonis Saremi, MD, MS, DABOM —California - Triple-board certified obesity medicine doctor
- Donney John, PharmD — Virginia - Pharmacist, community leader, and champion for access to medication
- Malcolm Broussard, BS Pharm, LHD (hon**),** FLSHP —Louisiana - Pharmacist and longstanding Louisiana Board of Pharmacy Executive Director
- Elizabeth Johnson, PharmD, FAPhA —California – Pharmacist and regulatory professional
- Lisa Robin, MLA —Texas - Regulatory policy leader, former head government affairs for the Federation of State Medical Boards

For more information or to get involved see www.CollaborativeEBM.org

About CEBM
The Collaborative for Evidence-Based Medicines: Putting Patient Safety First ("CEBM" or "the Collaborative") is a national provider-led organization advancing evidence-backed medicines, safe compounding, and stronger oversight and accountability to protect patients.

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