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USP’s Revised General Chapter *Pharmaceutical Compounding – Sterile Preparations* <797> Tightens Patient Safety Guidelines

Rockville, Md., November 27, 2007 — The U.S. Pharmacopeia is pleased to announce that changes to General Chapter *Pharmaceutical Compounding – Sterile Preparations* <797> are final and available online prior to becoming official. This revision tightens standards and conditions for sterile compounding over the current version of <797>, and will help improve patient safety.

The full chapter will be posted as a Revision Bulletin on USP’s Web site at <http://www.usp.org/USPNF/pf/generalChapter797.html> as of December 3, 2007. These revisions will become official on June 1, 2008, and will be included in *USP 32–NF 27* and the second edition of the *Pharmacists’ Pharmacopeia*, which will be published in March 2008. The revised standards are being published online to give the compounding community time to implement changes before the official date. After June 1, the current version in *USP 31–NF 26* will no longer be the official chapter.

“We deeply appreciate the dedication and commitment of the Sterile Compounding Expert Committee, which reviewed more than 500 comments from health care practitioners and organizations in response to the proposed revisions to General Chapter <797>,” said USP’s Diane Cousins, vice president, healthcare quality and information. “General Chapter <797> sets practice standards for compounding sterile preparations to ensure that all patients receive sterile, safe and accurate preparations during treatment. This chapter is one of the most important contributions to patient safety in decades.” The Expert Committee also convened two Advisory Panels and one industry forum to support its work.

USP is providing a variety of ways for practitioners and other interested parties to become familiar with the revised sterile compounding provisions prior to the June 1 official date. The next edition of the *Guidebook on USP General Chapter <797> Pharmaceutical Compounding – Sterile Preparation* will be available soon. In addition, USP is offering a variety of educational Webinars and workshops. All workshops will be ACPE accredited. For information on availability, pricing, dates and content, please visit www.usp.org after December 3.

For further information, please send an email to mediarelations@usp.org.

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The United States Pharmacopeia (USP) is a private, non-profit, standards-setting organization that advances public health by ensuring the quality and consistency of medicines, promoting the safe and proper use of medications, and verifying ingredients in dietary supplements. These standards, which are recognized worldwide, are developed by a unique process of public involvement through the contributions of volunteers representing pharmacy, medicine, and other health care professions, as well as science, academia, government, the pharmaceutical industry, and consumer organizations. For more information about USP and its four public health programs, visit www.usp.org/newscenter. **FY0816**

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