

NEW REQUIREMENT FOR COMMUNITY PHARMACIES BEGINS FEBRUARY 2010

The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act

The **Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA)** is a **NEW LAW**, which was signed in 2008. The Act, which is overseen by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), requires testing and documentation of a variety of consumer products, including the **CERTIFICATION OF POISON PREVENTION PACKAGING** of certain drugs.

While the LAW is mostly targeted towards products intended for children 12 years of age and younger, it also affects **ANY** product subject to CPSC regulations.

BEGINNING FEBRUARY 2010, manufacturers and importers will be required to make **Certificates of Conformity** available to retailers and distributors for affected products. The certificates must be in either paper or electronic format stating that the product has been tested and meets certain standards. State level inspections will occur by Attorney General Inspectors.

What Pharmacies Need to Know:

- ◆ Although most of the regulations apply to children's products, Poison Prevention Packaging required for many drugs, will now require a general **Certificate of Conformity** for those products manufactured **AFTER February 10, 2010**.
- ◆ Bulk prescription drugs, vials, dosing devices (dosing cups or dosing droppers) and caps used to dispense prescription drugs to patients are **NOT** affected.
- ◆ It is the pharmacy's responsibility to only sell products that comply with these new rules. Pharmacies must ensure that whomever they order products from is in compliance.
- ◆ If someone requests a **Certificate of Conformity** to prove a product's compliance, the pharmacy has 24 (business) hours to provide it.
- ◆ Failure to produce a **Certificate of Conformity** can result in fines of up to \$1,000.00 (one-thousand dollars)

For more information, go to www.cpsc.gov/cpsia.pdf