

+ Diplomat Specialty Infusion Group Statement Regarding U.S. Immune Globulin Shortage

July, 2019 – Over the past year, the immune globulin market has been in an uneasy balance between supply and demand.

In 2018, demand jumped unexpectedly, while a combination of factors affected manufacturing capacity. As a result, hospitals, physician practices, wholesalers, and smaller distributors across the country have been unable to obtain immune globulin for their customers.

- + For subcutaneously infused products (SCIG), supply issues appear to have eased.
- + For intravenously infused products (IVIG), however, supply is not meeting demand.

As a major buyer of immune globulin, Diplomat Specialty Infusion Group routinely negotiates direct, long-term purchase agreements with manufacturers. **This has enabled us to secure adequate supply for our customers and to manage increasing demand.**

Some manufacturers have narrowed their distribution networks to help manage the shortage. As a major distribution partner, we are one of only a few providers with access to certain brands.

Combined with our strong materials-management processes, these manufacturer agreements allow us to serve our existing customer base while still accepting new customers.

The market remains in a delicate balance, however. Additional supply stresses — even a single manufacturer interruption or lot recall — could put the U.S. market into a severe shortage. Based on communications with manufacturers, we expect the U.S. shortage to be resolved by the second quarter of 2020 if there are no additional supply issues. Managing the available supply until then will require payers, patients, and prescribers to be flexible about which IVIG brands may be used. This might include relaxing adherence to strict formularies or requesting alternative brands or vial sizes.

Assuming no further disruptions, we are optimistic about our ability to manage the current shortage and provide access to needed treatment. Should market conditions materially affect this outlook, we will issue an updated statement.

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