

What can YOU do about MVI?

While these programs may work well for the treatment of chronic conditions, such as diabetes, they just don't make sense for cancer patients.

If your employer or insurer requires you to participate in MVI then tell them that they need to **exempt** cancer patients from these programs!

Contact your **Human Resources** representative **TODAY**.



For more information go to www.TexasOncology.com



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Mandatory Vendor Imposition (MVI)

What is "Mandatory Vendor Imposition" Or MVI?

MVI describes any method by insurance companies that requires the patient to obtain injectable drugs from a source other than their physician's office and/or cancer center.

- **Brown Bagging:**
Patient gets drug directly from vendor/pharmacy to bring to the clinic to be given by clinic staff.
- **Mail Order:**
The clinic must order the drug then it can be given. Any one clinic may have to order from multiple vendors.
- **Drug Replacement:**
Vendor replaces the drug in physician's inventory.

So, what's the **PROBLEM** with **MVI**? And Why should **YOU** be **CONCERNED**?

DRUG SAFETY:

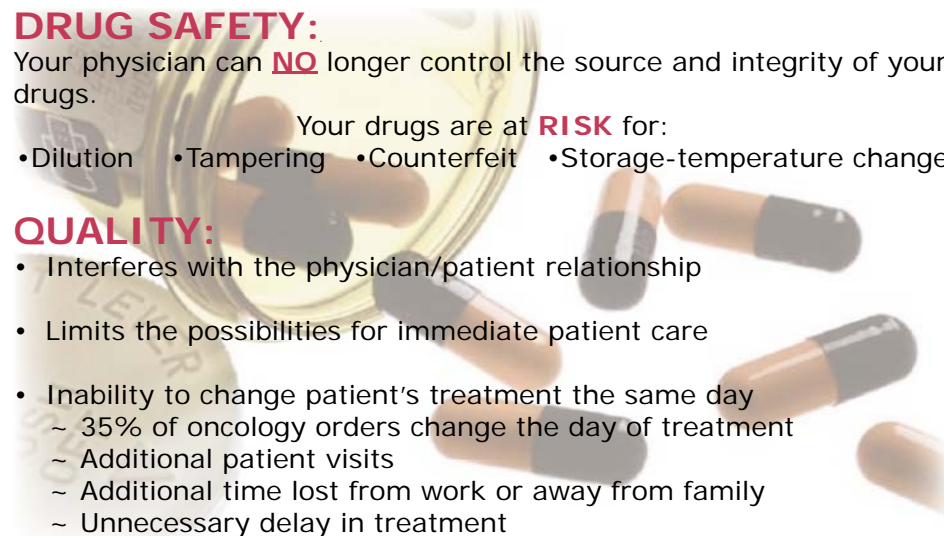
Your physician can **NO** longer control the source and integrity of your drugs.

Your drugs are at **RISK** for:

- Dilution
- Tampering
- Counterfeit
- Storage-temperature change

QUALITY:

- Interferes with the physician/patient relationship
- Limits the possibilities for immediate patient care
- Inability to change patient's treatment the same day
 - ~ 35% of oncology orders change the day of treatment
 - ~ Additional patient visits
 - ~ Additional time lost from work or away from family
 - ~ Unnecessary delay in treatment



Why MVI just doesn't work for cancer patients?

- MVI might work well for chronic conditions, such as diabetes, in which patients can self-administer their insulin at home, but cancer treatments are expensive therapies administered according to current blood work and clinical assessment
- MVI forces the patient to be responsible for handling highly unstable drugs
- MVI contributes to increased waste when treatment changes



Here is a typical example:

Ms. Smith has an office visit with her physician, Dr. Able. Dr. Able writes orders for her chemotherapy and schedules her to begin her infusion that day. Ms. Smith is accompanied by her nurse to the infusion room and begins her treatment. This is possible because the drugs are already in her physician's inventory and she can rest assured that the drugs being administered for her treatment are safe.

If Ms. Smith participated in an MVI program she would not be able to have her chemotherapy treatments the same day or the next day, because Dr. Able must order the drug from a vendor. Which means that Ms. Smith will have to either stop by the pharmacy on her way home or wait for the vendor to deliver the drugs to Dr. Able's office.

If Ms. Smith is required to pick up the drugs from a pharmacy then she will be responsible for transporting and properly caring for the drugs.

If the drugs are delivered to her physician, she will have to wait until the drugs are delivered and return for another visit.

If Dr. Able makes any changes in her treatment, then the already delivered drugs will have to be thrown away and she will have to return for yet another appointment once the new drugs arrive.

What are your physicians at **Texas Oncology** doing to protect you?

We have adopted the following policy:

Texas Oncology physicians oppose the actions of payers and of pharmaceutical/biotechnology companies, which require patients to acquire injectable drugs outside of the practice and bring those drugs into the practice for administration by **Texas Oncology** physicians. Such actions pose significant risks to our patients and liability to our physicians with respect to the product integrity, product labeling and accuracy, and the conditions to which those drugs may be exposed which cannot be known by our physicians.

Texas Oncology has taken steps to assure that the injectable drugs that you receive in our cancer centers and clinics are closely controlled in a closed chain distribution system, which means that the drug is being shipped direct from the manufacturer to a **Texas Oncology** facility.

