TO:  U.S. Food and Drug Administration
       Members of Congress
       President Donald J. Trump

As physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners, we believe that our patients should not be blocked from buying lawfully-manufactured medication from licensed pharmacies in other countries. For some of our patients, importing lower-cost medication from pharmacies outside the United States is their only treatment option because they cannot afford the high cost of the same drugs within the United States. Without these lower prices, many patients place their health at risk by rationing, or entirely skipping their medication.

Our patients, who have purchased medications through the help of pharmacy storefronts or international online pharmacies verified by PharmacyChecker.com, have received safe and effective medications from legitimate pharmacies in Canada and several other countries. We respect that the FDA is charged with protecting our nation’s medicine supply from counterfeit and otherwise substandard drugs. However, there is no logical reason why the FDA should interfere with the delivery of safe and effective medications to our patients.

We urge our elected officials and relevant federal agencies to explicitly permit Americans, many of whom cannot afford medication at local pharmacies, to obtain their medication through personal importation. We should educate patients on how to find safe international pharmacies and avoid rogue online pharmacies, websites that do not require a valid prescription that intentionally sell counterfeit or substandard drugs.

Causing our patients to go without their needed medication is unacceptable and dangerous to their overall health and well-being.

Respectfully submitted,

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