



Citizens' Council for Health Freedom

# Health Freedom Minute

January 6, 2012

## Drug Shortages in America

America has a drug shortage problem. If you aren't sick or injured you might not care. But if you are, drug shortages could threaten your life. 28 percent of the shortages are in cancer drugs. 13 percent are in antibiotics.

The problem is industry consolidation, leaving fewer facilities to make drugs. Are federal regulations the cause? In 1999, the FDA required drug makers to perform approximately 96 procedures on patients enrolled in clinical trials. By 2005, 158 procedures were required. The cost of clinical trials can exceed \$1 billion dollars with no guarantee that the FDA will let the company sell the drug.

Sources: "Hospitals Cut Doses Amid Drug Shortages," Jennifer Corbett Dooren, The Wall Street Journal, December 15, 2011.

"Big Pharma's New Business Model," Scott Gottlieb, The Wall Street Journal, December 27, 2011.

*The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 37 states: Mornings M-Th at AM1280 (The Patriot) in MN and 91.5 AM WHKC (FreedomFM) in OH and afternoons on American Family Radio.*