

Pfizer's Position on Use of Our Products in Lethal Injections for Capital Punishment

Pfizer's purpose is to deliver breakthroughs that change patients' lives. Research and development is at the heart of fulfilling Pfizer's purpose as we work to translate advanced science and technologies into the therapies that matter most. We strive to set the standard for quality, safety and value in the discovery, development and manufacturing of medicines. Pfizer makes its products to enhance and save the lives of the patients we serve. Consistent with these values, Pfizer strongly objects to the use of its products as lethal injections for capital punishment.

Pfizer's obligation is to ensure the availability of our products to patients who rely on them for medically necessary purposes. At the same time, we are enforcing a distribution restriction for specific products in the same class of drugs that have been part of, or could be considered by some states, for their lethal injection protocols. These products include atracurium besylate, cisatracurium besylate, diazepam, etomidate, fentanyl citrate, hydromorphone hydrochloride, ketamine hydrochloride, midazolam, pancuronium bromide, potassium acetate, potassium chloride, potassium phosphates, propofol, rocuronium bromide and vecuronium bromide.

Pfizer's distribution restriction limits the sale of these fifteen products to a select group of wholesalers, distributors, and direct purchasers under the condition that they will not resell these products to correctional institutions for use in lethal injections. Government purchasing entities must certify that products they purchase or otherwise acquire are used only for medically prescribed patient care and not for any penal purposes. Pfizer further requires that these Government purchasers certify that the product is for "own use" and will not resell or otherwise provide the restricted products to any other party.

Pfizer will consistently monitor the distribution of these fifteen products, act upon findings that reveal noncompliance, and modify policies when necessary to remain consistent with our stated position against the use of our products in lethal injections. Importantly, this distribution system is also designed to ensure that these critical medications will remain immediately available to those patients who rely on them every day.

ABOUT THESE PRODUCTS:

Atracurium besylate, cisatracurium besylate, diazepam, etomidate, fentanyl citrate, hydromorphone hydrochloride, ketamine hydrochloride, midazolam, pancuronium bromide, potassium acetate, potassium chloride, potassium phosphates, propofol, rocuronium bromide and vecuronium bromide are FDA-approved, medically necessary drugs administered by licensed medical professionals, thousands of times a day, in efforts to treat illness or save the lives of patients around the world. They are well established within the medical community and continue to serve important needs in surgical procedures and other treatments. Pfizer offers these products because they save or improve lives, and markets them solely for use as indicated in the product labeling.

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