

chains to do this on an integrated basis. In a controlled environment, there is also a real application with controlled substances—in close collaboration with the DEA. By compressing supply with demand, inventory turns will increase, enhancing free cash flow and reducing unsaleable returns. By closely tracking supply to demand, the process for recalls and quarantine of suspect pharmaceutical drugs becomes faster, easier, and more accurate.

Another big unintended benefit from the Title II regulations is the possibility of reducing returns by understanding the why behind the returns. Understanding why returns occur can lead to changes in policies and procedures for the procurement and manufacturing processes with pharmaceutical drug manufacturers. The efficiencies gained in the forward supply chain have the potential to far outstrip the reduction in returns.

CONCLUSION

Our hearts and prayers go out to the families of the 64 people who died and the 751 people with fungal infections from tainted medicine produced by the NECC.¹¹ The Drug Quality and Security Act became law to address the legislative and oversight deficiencies that allowed the tainted medicine to be given to patients. While the law is not perfect (and not quite finished), as we pointed out throughout the book, it is a big step forward to protecting patients in need of compounded medications. My hat is off to the 99% of the pharmaceutical drug supply chain workers who day by day and hour by hour work so hard to protect our drug quality and drug security, as well as our fine law enforcement personnel who deal with the 1%. The journey continues!

ENDNOTES

1. <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/public%20policy>.
2. <http://www.fda.com>; input from John Swann, FDA historian, October 2014.
3. Ebola Virus Disease, WHO, <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs103/en/>.
4. Fog of Ebola War: White House Stance Unclear as Military Leaders Urge U.S. Troop Quarantine, *Fox News*, 2014, <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2014/10/27/joint-chiefs-call-for-quarantine-troops-returning-from-ebola-zone/>.
5. <http://www.jnj.com/>.