

As the sourcing and purchasing partners to America's acute and non-acute healthcare providers, healthcare group purchasing organizations (GPOs) have been helping in the COVID-19 fight, working alongside hospitals and other healthcare providers to help address and prevent the spread of COVID-19. **Here are some of the ways GPOs have been helping providers navigate the COVID-19 pandemic:**

Helping Healthcare Providers Access Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

A GPO used its global sourcing arm to identify new sourcing of manufacturing capacity, ultimately contracting with several different PPE suppliers to secure millions of masks, respirators, and gowns.



Enabling a Supply of Essential Medical Supplies

Multiple GPOs worked with non-traditional and adjacent industries such as distilleries, textile manufacturers, and automobile manufacturers to fill supply gaps for essential products such as hand sanitizer, isolation gowns, and surgical caps.



Driving Quality Throughout the Healthcare System

A GPO worked around the clock to vet new manufacturers for compliance with standards set by the FDA and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to ensure product viability and quality on behalf of the GPO's provider members.



Increasing the Supply of Critical Drugs

Multiple GPOs have launched programs to strengthen the resiliency of the supply chain for essential drugs, helping to strengthen competition, mitigate drug shortages, and increase supplies of critical drugs for patients.



Taking Proactive Measures to Safeguard Nursing Homes

A GPO acted swiftly to help a nursing home take preventative measures, closing dining and common areas and moving to delivery, instituting temperature screenings, establishing regular checkpoints and mask distributions, and more.



Harnessing Data to Meet Surge Needs

GPOs have been using digital tracking boards to provide a real-time view of patient beds in the hospital system and enable supply management teams to direct PPE, ventilators, and other equipment where needed.



Working with Policymakers and Public Officials to Inform Response Efforts

GPOs worked closely with the Administration to provide data on surge demand, clinical utilization, and barriers to providing care and improving healthcare delivery during the pandemic.

