



Shipping Medicine to a Person with Cancer Outside the U.S.

Residents of countries (including Venezuela, Somalia, and India) facing nationwide economic and humanitarian crises are often in desperate need for help. In some instances, residents of these countries have friends or family in the United States who want to help by sending them things they need but cannot access.

If you or someone you know is considering mailing items such as prescription medication to another country, be sure you understand the legal limitations both in the United States and in the country where the recipient lives, as many countries have restrictions on imported goods. International shipping typically requires a “customs declaration” (a form describing the contents of your shipment and contact information) to help control which goods enter a country. Always check with the shipping carrier for specific instructions on how to properly mail a package before you ship anything internationally. Anyone who wishes to mail a package is responsible for complying with federal laws, local laws, and carrier regulations.

Can I ship prescription medication from the United States to another country?

Generally, no. For the most part, individuals in the United States cannot legally mail prescription medication to someone in a foreign country.

You cannot legally ship any prescription medication that contains a substance or medicine that is considered a “controlled substance” (a substance listed in the schedules of the Controlled Substances Act of 1970) or narcotic (a mood or behavior-altering substance) unless you are registered with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Federal agency that enforces the Controlled Substances Act. Registering with the DEA gives pharmacies, medical practitioners, and drug manufacturers (among others) special permission to prescribe, distribute, and potentially mail controlled substances to patients. *Only* distributors registered with the DEA are allowed to mail prescription medications considered controlled substances. For a list of medications that are considered controlled substances, please visit: <https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/schedules/>.

If you wish to ship other types of prescription medications, you may still run into challenges. Prescription medication (such as chemotherapy medications or antibiotics) may only be mailed by pharmacists or health care providers to patients who are under their care. So, a doctor in the U.S. cannot write a prescription for a patient in a foreign country that he or she has not actually examined or treated, and without a valid prescription, you cannot obtain prescription medication on behalf of someone else. Some pharmacies might accept international prescriptions written and prescribed by a doctor after examining a patient outside of the U.S. In these cases, it usually is



your safest option to have the pharmacy mail the prescription directly to the patient outside of the U.S. instead of mailing it yourself.

Can I ship non-prescription (over-the-counter) medication internationally?

Even if you are not mailing prohibited prescription medication or controlled substances, you will still need to take precautions if you ship non-prescription medication to another country, or even within the United States. In order to ship over-the-counter medication, you must follow all applicable federal, state, or local laws that may apply (such as the Poison Prevention Packaging Act of 1970 and the Consumer Product Safety Commission requirements). There may be packaging requirements, weight limits, and customs rules and regulations for the country you are shipping the medicine to. To ship items internationally, you can use the shipping carrier of your choosing.

Restrictions from some of the most well-known shipping companies:

- DHL shipping restrictions by country:
http://www.dhl-usa.com/en/express/shipping/shipping_advice/import_guidelines_express_global.html%20.html
- FedEx list of prohibited items:
<https://crossborder.fedex.com/us/assets/prohibited-restricted/>
- USPS international restrictions by country:
https://pe.usps.com/text/imm/ab_toc.htm
- To view the Poison Prevention Packaging Act of 1970, please visit:
<https://www.cpsc.gov/Regulations-Laws--Standards/Statutes/Poison-Prevention-Packaging-Act>

Are there companies that will help send essential items to residents of countries in crises?

Whether you would like to send medication or other essential items to another country, such as food or toiletries, the following are some resources that may be able to help. **Please note, the CLRC is not affiliated with any of these companies and does not endorse their services:**



Locatel is a pharmacy located in Florida that sends cancer medicines internationally (including Venezuela). To order medication, you need to show the original prescription written by a doctor for the specific medication. Locatel accepts prescriptions in person or by fax, and also accepts international prescriptions. That means a doctor from another country can write a prescription for

you and Locatel will accept it, as long as it is the original prescription. For more information, please visit: <http://locatelus.com/index.php>.

Locatel Hallandale Beach

1715 E Hallandale Beach Blvd.
Hallandale Beach, FL 33009
Store Phone: (954) 416-1200
Pharmacy Phone: (954) 416-1202

Locatel Bird Road

Bird Galloway
8508 SW 40 St. Miami, FL 33155
Store Phone: (786) 422-8300
Pharmacy Phone: (786) 422-8302



Pharm-aid is a pharmacy in Florida which provides medications, medical equipment, medical examinations, and other services. They provide in-person consultations in English, Spanish, and Korean at the pharmacy. Pharm-aid accepts international prescriptions and ships medicines internationally (including to Venezuela). If you are sending an expensive medication internationally, Pharm-aid may waive the costs of transporting the medication. For more information, please visit: <http://www.pharm-aidrx.com/>.

Pharm-Aid LLC
12117 Pembroke Rd.
Pembroke Pines, FL 33025
(954) 544-4994 or (954) 544-4970
info@Pharm-AidRx.com

Are there other shipping companies that I can use to send items internationally?

Yes. Below are some independent shipping companies that you can use to send items internationally. Be sure you understand the company's rules and regulations so you know exactly which items are prohibited from being shipped domestically or internationally.



Terra-Overseas is an international shipping company located in Doral, Florida. They may waive shipping costs for any medicines (including medicines sent to Venezuela). Please contact the company for more details: <https://www.yelp.com/biz/terra-overseas-doral> or (305) 456-5083.



MyUS is an online store that ships US products internationally (including to Venezuela). Some restrictions apply to medicine. To learn more about MyUS, please visit: <https://www.myus.com/> or call 941-227-4444.



ShipW is a shipping company that allows you to send packages internationally (including to Venezuela) for low cost. Some restrictions may apply when shipping medications. For more information, please visit: <https://www.shipw.com/> or call 302-244-7872.

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