

## **Attention: CuraScript SD Specialty Distribution Customers**

The FDA has determined that all Erythropoiesis- Stimulating Agents (ESAs) be prescribed and used under a risk management program, known as risk evaluation and mitigation strategy (REMS), to ensure the safe use of these drugs.

Complying with this ruling Amgen Inc. and Centocor Ortho Biotech, L.P. the manufacturers of Epogen<sup>®</sup>, Aranesp<sup>®</sup> and Procrit<sup>®</sup> developed a REMS program for these drugs.

As part of the ESAs REMS program, a Medication Guide explaining the risks and benefits of ESAs will be provided to all patients receiving these. In addition to the Medication Guide, physicians prescribing ESAs to cancer patients must enroll and complete ESA APPRAISE Oncology program.

Under the ESA APPRAISE Oncology program only those hospitals and healthcare professionals who have enrolled and completed training in the program will prescribe and dispense ESAs to patients with cancer.

### **How does this affect you?**

On Mar. 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 the ESA APPRAISE Oncology program will launch allowing healthcare professionals administering ESAs to cancer patients to enroll in the program.

As the specialty distributor of choice, CuraScript SD welcomes the opportunity to continue to service your ESAs needs before, during and after your completion of the ESA APPRAISE Oncology program.

For more information on this REMS please visit the [FDA](#) web site

For more information on how to enroll in the [ESA APPRAISE](#) program please [click here](#).