Most Americans take for granted the complex pharmaceutical supply chain that ensures their medication arrives at the pharmacy, doctor’s office or hospital. Healthcare distributors safely, securely and efficiently deliver medicines to hundreds of thousands of state and federally licensed pharmacies, hospitals, clinics and other healthcare providers across the country each and every day.

As healthcare logistics experts, distributors deliver medications ordered by licensed pharmacies based on prescriptions written by licensed physicians or healthcare providers.

State-of-the-art, highly automated distribution centers, strategically located throughout the country, help distributors reliably deliver medicines faster than ever before. With operations continuously running, distributors can take orders by as late as 8:00 p.m. and deliver them to their destination by the next morning and distributors are constantly envisioning new ways to move and secure medicines.

Patients can trust that their doctor-prescribed medications arrive safely at the pharmacy because distributors ensure medicines are handled properly and protect the supply chain from counterfeit products.

Distributors save the healthcare system billions of dollars per year through streamlined, aggregated ordering, efficient shipping logistics and cutting-edge technologies.

Without distributors, manufacturers would need to maintain separate relationships with every pharmacy and hospital in America and coordinate the delivery of their products. Pharmacies and hospitals would need to individually order each medicine from a manufacturer directly. Not only would that add tremendous time and cost, but it would be almost impossible to manage inventory and guard against shortages.

During natural disasters or emergencies, the needs of patients escalate. Distributors rise to the challenge of making sure lifesaving medicines reach the people who need them despite the circumstances. Distributors’ logistics expertise allows them to quickly spring into action during emergencies and rapidly deliver medical supplies and disaster aid around the clock to impacted communities, ensuring the right medical supplies are getting to the right place at the right time.

To learn more about healthcare distributors visit: www.HDA.org