

# The Importance of Maintaining Stable Demand in a Changing Global Environment

Global supply chains continue to experience disruption due to geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, impacting key international trade routes such as the Red Sea and Gulf region. These conditions are contributing to longer transit times, increased logistics complexity, and periodic fluctuations in costs for certain product categories.

While news of global supply chain disruptions can understandably raise concern, inventory management in dental practices should continue to align with actual clinical consumption.

## The Greater Impact of Stockpiling

While it may feel prudent to increase inventory during periods of uncertainty, ordering beyond normal consumption can create unintended system-wide effects, including:

- Distorting normal distribution and allocation patterns
- Contributing to localized and avoidable supply pressure
- Increasing excess inventory risk within individual practices
- Amplifying uncertainty across the broader supply chain

When many practices adjust ordering above consumption levels simultaneously, it can misrepresent actual usage patterns and reduce overall supply chain efficiency.

## Guidance For Dental Practices

To support a stable and reliable supply-chain environment, DIAC encourages dental professionals to:

- Align product orders with clinical consumption
- Maintain standard inventory practices
- Avoid stockpiling or precautionary over-ordering

This approach supports fair product distribution, consistent availability, and greater stability across the supply chain for all practices.

## **DIAC's Commitment**

DIAC continues to monitor global logistics conditions, raw material trends, and manufacturer developments. We remain committed to providing clear, practical guidance to support informed decision-making and stability across the Canadian dental community.