



Nov. 16, 2023

Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment  
Air Pollution Control Division  
4300 Cherry Creek South Drive  
Denver, CO 80246

Dear Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment,

On behalf of Colorado Hospital Association (CHA) and its more than 100 member hospitals and health systems, I am writing to encourage CDPHE to ensure that new regulations related to the implementation of [House Bill 22-1244](#) do not disrupt the health care supply chain, which could threaten patient safety. CHA is committed to implementing effective, pragmatic, and business-friendly policies to improve air quality, protect public health, and deliver the quality-of-life Coloradans deserve. Hospitals value public health and clean air for the communities and patients they serve. At the same time, maintaining a robust health care supply chain has never been more important or top of mind for patients and businesses recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The [toxic air contaminants list](#) released by CDPHE in June contains ethylene oxide, which is a key component in medical device sterilization. Sterilization is an often overlooked, yet essential, part of the health care supply chain. Hundreds of thousands of medical processes and procedures rely on proven sterilization practices to provide patients with infection-free care. High standards for patient safety in hospitals demand the most effective methods of sterilization for medical equipment.

Medical technology is an integral piece of modern medicine, and any decisions that could disrupt hospitals and other clinical settings should not be taken lightly. While CHA would never downplay the need to protect communities from environmental harm, the Association wants to urge CDPHE to look at public health more broadly and understand the importance of functional health systems.

Thank you in advance for considering the hospital perspective on this matter. When dealing with issues as intricate as medical device sterilization, it is crucial to evaluate all potential impacts that new regulations could have on patients, hospitals, and local economies.

CHA looks forward to helping CDPHE navigate complex issues like this one now and in the future.

Sincerely,

*Adeline Ewing*

Adeline Ewing  
Policy Analyst  
Colorado Hospital Association