A LOOK INTO U.S. DRUG SUPPLY SAFETY

The number of drug products made outside of the United States doubled from 2001 to 2008.1

The United States imports the most pharmaceuticals and medicines by weight from China: 188 MILLION POUNDS in 2009.2

Chinese pharmaceutical raw material exports to the U.S. represent a $2.2 billion business each year.3

94% of American voters want the FDA to have this authority.10

The FDA can order the recall of food but not drugs.

94% of the pharmaceutical executives who responded to a 2010 survey consider raw material sourcing from foreign suppliers to be a serious or moderate risk.5

The number of counterfeit drug investigations opened by the FDA Office of Criminal Investigations in FY 2010.

The number in FY 2000: 14

How often, on average, the Food and Drug Administration inspects drug manufacturing plants:

- DOMESTIC SITES: EVERY 2-3 YEARS
- FOREIGN SITES: EVERY 9 YEARS

Chinese pharmaceutical raw material exports to the U.S. represent a $2.2 billion business each year.4

40% of active pharmaceutical ingredient factories listed in generic drug applications are in the United States.8

40% are located in India.

80% of active ingredients and bulk chemicals used in U.S. drugs come from foreign countries,11 and 40% of finished drugs used by U.S. patients are manufactured abroad.12,13

Only 10% of the active pharmaceutical ingredient factories listed in generic drug applications are in the United States.4

40% of the active pharmaceutical ingredient factories listed in generic drug applications are in the United States.4

129,000 vials of insulin stolen in 2009, only 2 percent were recovered.

Some of the stolen product, which was stored under uncertain conditions, was sold to pharmacies and dispensed to patients.4,7

The number of counterfeit drug investigations opened by the FDA Office of Criminal Investigations in FY 2010.

The number of counterfeit drug investigations opened by the FDA Office of Criminal Investigations in FY 2010.

The shipment of your birthday present can be tracked from distribution to delivery, but there is no comprehensive national system to track a package of drugs from the manufacturing plant to your pharmacy.
REFERENCES


2. The category of pharmaceuticals and medicines is so defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). NAICS 3254: Pharmaceuticals and medicines may include substances for both human and veterinary use.

3. Source of original data: United States Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division


