

# Medical Product Quality Report – COVID-19 Issues

Issue 7. December 2020

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Centre of Tropical Medicine & Global Health, Nuffield Department of Medicine,  
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## 1. Summary of findings

Throughout 2020 the MQM Globe database tracked lay press publications related to SF medical products. In the English literature we identified over 469 relevant articles reporting incidents linked to COVID-19 medical products. Those articles included at least 534 different incidents in 60 different countries. Over half of the incidents were linked to substandard and falsified (SF) personal protective equipment (PPE) and sanitisers. The other incidents included medicines, diagnostics and vaccines.

One year after the start of the pandemic incidents with diverted, substandard or falsified COVID-19 supplies continue. For December we report on 37 alerts. Falsified or diverted COVID-19 vaccines were reported in South Africa, Philippines and Brazil. In addition we found many COVID-19 vaccines being offered on the Dark Web. There have been fewer articles reporting on SF COVID-19 diagnostics but incidents do continue. Even though the FDA is warning manufacturers about methanol contamination of sanitizers, new cases continue to occur. Reports on SF PPE remain frequent. Worryingly those PPE are often destined for health care workers. When PPE do not provide the required protection or do not meet the set standards, the health of the health care workers and their contacts are at risk.

Interpol, Europol, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations and many more national and international organisations have emphasized the public health threat of criminal activities related to COVID-19 vaccines, treatments, and other COVID-19 related supplies. We continue monitoring and data sharing and urge for much more international coordination to mitigate the risks.

## 2. Introduction

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the demand for COVID-19 related medical supplies has inevitably ballooned with an increased demand for personal protective equipment (PPE), diagnostics and preventive & curative pharmaceuticals. The high demand and related shortages of genuine products contributes to an increased global risk of substandard and falsified (SF) medical products, for COVID-19 and for many other essential medicines. The media have been reporting diverse examples of SF products flooding the market.

This monthly report aims to collate information and reports in the public domain on the quality of medicinal products that are currently in use, or that are being trialled for COVID-19's prevention or treatment. We also include reports on key subjects such as access, affordability or off label use for COVID-19 if they mention concern of the quality of the products. We do not aim to include discussion of the multiple fraudulent claims and quackery.

We use the terminology for different types of poor quality medical products as defined by the World Health Organisation (WHO, 2017)<sup>1</sup>:

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<sup>1</sup>Source: World Health Organisation. Appendix 3 WHO MEMBER STATE MECHANISM ON SUBSTANDARD/SPURIOUS/FALSELY-LABELLED/FALSIFIED/COUNTERFEIT (SSFFC) MEDICAL PRODUCTS WORKING DEFINITIONS. In: Seventieth World Health Assembly. ; 2017. Accessed August 14, 2020. [https://www.who.int/medicines/regulation/ssffc/A70\\_23-en1.pdf?ua=1](https://www.who.int/medicines/regulation/ssffc/A70_23-en1.pdf?ua=1)

- **Substandard medical products**  
Also called “out of specification”, these are authorized medical products that fail to meet either their quality standards or their specifications, or both.
- **Unregistered/unlicensed medical products**  
Medical products that have not undergone evaluation and/or approval by the national or regional regulatory authority for the market in which they are marketed/distributed or used, subject to permitted conditions under national or regional regulation and legislation.
- **Falsified medical products**  
Medical products that deliberately/fraudulently misrepresent their identity, composition or source.

We emphasise the difference between the use of the terms ‘falsified’ and ‘counterfeit’ medical products. ‘Falsified’ is a broad term including all the various types of deliberate misrepresentation of a medical product from a public health perspective. The term ‘counterfeit’ is specifically linked to intellectual property rights, ‘trademark counterfeit goods’<sup>2</sup> and ‘pirated copyright goods’<sup>3</sup> as used in the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) agreement.

The reports presented here were mostly extracted from the Medicines Quality Monitoring Globe ([the MQM Globe is accessible on the IDDO website](#)<sup>4</sup>), a system that scrapes online newspapers (referenced in Google News) for early warnings of SF medical products. In addition, alerts and reports by national and international organisations are included when captured by the members of the team or shared by colleagues. This report also includes scientific literature and policy documents related to COVID-19 medical products quality identified by manual searches in PubMed and Google Scholar. These will be displayed on the Medicine Quality COVID-19 Surveyor to be released in the coming months. We also include preprint of articles. Please note that preprints should be viewed with additional caution as they have not been peer-reviewed. They should not be relied on to guide clinical practice or health-related behaviour and should not be reported in news media as established information.

Please note the caveats for the lay literature ([MQM Globe disclaimer and caveats are accessible on the IDDO website](#)<sup>5</sup>); we include abstracts and extracts from articles that are subject to a take down policy. If we are contacted by a potential rights-holder who objects to the presence of material, we will remove the material in question from the report and Globe until we have been able to assess the case. Where material is removed for valid reasons of

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<sup>2</sup>*Trademark counterfeit goods*: any goods, including packaging, bearing without authorization a trademark which is identical to the trademark validly registered in respect of such goods, or which cannot be distinguished in its essential aspects from such a trademark, and which thereby infringes the rights of the owner of the trademark in question under the law of the country of importation.

Source: World Trade Organization. Part III — Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights. Accessed August 14, 2020. [https://www.wto.org/english/docs\\_e/legal\\_e/27-trips\\_05\\_e.htm#fnt-14](https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/27-trips_05_e.htm#fnt-14)

<sup>3</sup>*Pirated copyright goods*: any goods that are copies made without the consent of the right holder or person duly authorized by the right holder in the country of production, and which are made directly or indirectly from an article where the making of that copy would have constituted an infringement of a copyright or a related right under the law of the country of importation.

Source: World Trade Organization. Part III — Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights. Accessed August 14, 2020. [https://www.wto.org/english/docs\\_e/legal\\_e/27-trips\\_05\\_e.htm#fnt-14](https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/27-trips_05_e.htm#fnt-14)

<sup>4</sup>Infectious Diseases Data Observatory. Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe. Web Page. Published 2020. Accessed October 16, 2020. <https://www.iddo.org/medicine-quality-monitoring-globe>

<sup>5</sup>Infectious Diseases Data Observatory. Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe disclaimer and caveats. Web Page. Published 2020. Accessed October 19, 2020. <https://www.iddo.org/medicine-quality-monitoring-globe-disclaimer-and-caveats>

copyright, its removal will be considered as lasting until copyright in the material expires, or until the rights-holder agrees that the material can be reinstated.

This seventh issue of the monthly report 'Medical Product Quality Report – COVID-19 Issues' covers information published during the month of December 2020. The previous issues covered publications from January 1st to November 30th 2020 and are available on the IDDO<sup>6</sup> and MORU<sup>7</sup> websites. We also include publications and reports published prior to December 2020 that were missed in the previous issues of the report. We are developing a system for scraping regulatory authority and international organisation websites for alerts. Any remarks or additions to content are greatly appreciated (please write to [medicinequality@iddo.org](mailto:medicinequality@iddo.org)).

### 3. Scientific literature

#### 3.1. General

[preprint] Arpita R, Nishant N, Singh D, Kulkarni N, Chaurasia S, Pathak L. **Knowledge, attitudes, and practices towards COVID-19 pandemic among residents of Jharkhand state, India: An online survey.** *Preprint*. Published online December 1, 2020. doi:10.21203/RS.3.RS-116495/V1

Extract. « *Markets are these days floated with various kind of sanitizers with reports coming that many not following specifications required for prevention against COVID-19. It is imperative for public to understand type of sanitizers to be used so that they do not stay in swag that they are adequately protected after using any sort of sanitizer available in the market.* »

Barua M, Kumar S, Mishra V, Mohanty A, Joshi HS. **Unmasking N95 for COVID-19 health-care workers in India.** *J Fam Med Prim Care*. 2020;9(12):5852. doi:10.4103/JFMPC.JFMPC\_1839\_20

Extract. « *As India faces massive shortage of FFRs [Filtering Facepiece Respirator] amid this COVID-19 pandemic, many counterfeits and uncertified respirators are finding their way into the health-care system. Counterfeits and uncertified respirators are two distinct entities. Counterfeits are a fraudulent imitation of a genuine product. They may be recognized by having a high index of suspicion, verifying manufacturers & trademarks from certifying agencies and purchasing from authorized retailers. Uncertified respirators present a different problem. Although manufacturers do test FFRs in their laboratories for quality, it is possible that certification may be delayed due to procedural reasons or bureaucracy.* »

Hashimoto T, Sawano T, Ozaki A, Tsubokura M, Tsuchiya T. **Need for more proactive use of pharmacists in the COVID-19 pandemic following lessons learnt from the Great East Japan Earthquake.** *J Glob Health*. 2020;10(2). doi:10.7189/jogh.10.020397

Extract. « *Maintaining an appropriate and sustainable supply of medical and health service products, including drugs, vaccines and sanitary materials, is of paramount importance in any crisis that impacts on public health in any population. In the past, quackery spread during the Great Plague, and after World War 2 shortage of anti-infective agents and analgesics caused the spread of substandard and counterfeit drugs, leading to negative health impacts, including deaths. In this regard, during the*

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<sup>6</sup>Infectious Diseases Data Observatory. Medical Product Quality Reports. Medical Product Quality Reports. Published 2020. Accessed January 13, 2021. <https://www.iddo.org/mq/research/medical-product-quality-reports>

<sup>7</sup>MORU Tropical Health Network. Medical Product Quality Report - Covid-19 issues. Medicine Quality. Published 2020. Accessed December 8, 2020. <https://www.tropmedres.ac/research-areas/medicine-quality/medicine-quality>

*Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, which has spread rapidly around the world including Japan, constructing stable supply chains of resources such as drugs and other daily necessities should be essential for preventing undesired outcomes. »*

Jarrett S, Wilmansyah T, Bramanti Y, et al. **The role of manufacturers in the implementation of global traceability standards in the supply chain to combat vaccine counterfeiting and enhance safety monitoring.** *Vaccine*. 2020;38(52):8325. doi:10.1016/j.vaccine.2020.11.011

*Abstract. « The counterfeiting of vaccines is an increasing problem globally with the safety of persons vaccinated, the trust in vaccines generally and the associated reputation of vaccine manufacturers and regulatory agencies at risk. This risk is especially critical with the on-going development of COVID-19 vaccines. The ability to track and trace vaccines through the vaccine supply chain down to persons vaccinated has to be enhanced. In this context of traceability, the global immunization community has recently set the barcoding of the primary packaging of vaccines, specifically vaccine vials and pre-filled syringes, as a top priority. Emerging vaccine manufacturers are already engaged in investigating ways to incorporate barcoding in their labelling and packaging using GS1 international standards. A specific pilot taking place in Indonesia by the national vaccine manufacturer, Bio Farma, shows the innovation of barcoding on primary packaging already underway with a relatively modest level of investment and success at this stage. This article highlights the efforts of industry and governments on the value of traceability and introduction to 2D barcodes. Access to financial resources and support from the international immunization community would accelerate such innovations leading to enhanced security of the vaccine supply chain. »*

Khor WP, Olaoye O, D'arcy N, et al. **The need for ongoing antimicrobial stewardship during the COVID-19 pandemic and actionable recommendations.** *Antibiotics*. 2020;9(12):1-12. doi:10.3390/antibiotics9120904

*Extract. « Another challenge during the pandemic response in many countries is combating falsified and substandard medicines and pharmaceutical supplies. [...] Past studies have shown that falsified or substandard antimicrobials are highly likely to promote the emergence and spread of AMR. Recent studies have also shown that the resistance of Escherichia coli and Mycobacterium smegmatis to rifampin occurred as a result of exposure to substandard medicines; this presents a potential threat to tuberculosis treatment. Over the years, it has been recognised that addressing the problem of substandard or falsified medicines will require the united action of all relevant stakeholders including government bodies, policy makers, regulatory and law enforcement agencies, public health professionals, patients and the general public. Pharmacists play a pivotal role in combating falsified and substandard medicines by working on strengthening supply chain procurement processes to ensure uninterrupted access to safe and effective medicines during the pandemic. »*

Mason AN. **Pharmacy Internal Controls: A Call for Greater Vigilance during the COVID-19 Pandemic.** *Pharmacy*. 2020;8(4):216. doi:10.3390/pharmacy8040216

*Abstract. « For businesses that store physical goods, managing product inventories and financial cost accounting controls are critical. Pharmacies are under considerable scrutiny, due to the nature of their merchandise, making internal controls even more vital. Due to the emergence of COVID-19 and government mitigation strategies, the US economy has seen significant macro- and microeconomic effects. COVID-19 has changed the pharmacy working environment, which could theoretically increase rates of employee drug diversion. Therefore, better inventory management could reduce the misuse of pharmaceutical drugs from fraudulent and drug diversion activities. The author explored secondary findings to create a multidisciplinary conceptual analysis of the reasons why internal controls executed with greater diligence may be needed to avoid damaging financial, legal, and health outcomes. The author also provides a review of available internal control methods that can be used to mitigate diversion. »*

Shiferie F, Kassa E. **The scourge of substandard and falsified medical products gets worse with COVID-19 pandemic.** *Pan Afr Med J.* 2020;37. doi:10.11604/pamj.2020.37.344.26322

Abstract. « *Although health professionals, communities, governments and global institutions work closely to halt the spread of COVID-19 and mitigate its societal impact, COVID-19 remains a challenge to many countries around the world. In addition to its direct health, economic and social consequences, the pandemic has also resulted in unforeseen consequences in Africa especially in East African countries. COVID-19 might increase the demand and consumption of Substandard and Falsified (SF) medical products in three major ways. The first way is due to the inability of vulnerable segment of the population to access healthcare services as they used to do before. The second way people get exposed to SF medical products is due to fear of being quarantined, isolated and traced. Yet another way is related to import permits for medical products. Concerned regulatory bodies shall intervene aggressively in ensuring the safety, quality and effectiveness of medical products before we face a parallel pandemic from SF medical products.* »

Tongyam C, Potiwiput S, Tumkhanon K, et al. **Authenticity Screening for N95 Filtering Facepiece Respirator by Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope in Comparison with Particulate Filtration Efficiency Analysis.** *J Microsc Soc Thail.* 2020;33(2):1-5. Accessed January 8, 2021. <https://www.tci-thaijo.org/index.php/mmres/>

Abstract. « *Wearing face masks has become mandatory for many countries around the world as a mean to curb the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus transmission. During this difficult time the N95 FFR stock becomes an overnight commodity. The filtration efficiency of the mask is an important concern to protect medical professionals. By description, N95 filtering facepiece respirator (FFR) is a mask that is certified to filter over 95% of the particle size of 0.3 microns. Those numbers are considered to be able to filter out microorganisms and the majority of dust particles and air pollution. Counterfeited FFR's flooded the market and put medical professionals at risk. As the filtration efficiency depends on the physical characteristics and chemical properties of respirator materials, the analysis of fiber topology should shed lights on how to screen counterfeited FFRs from genuine ones. In this study, fiber topology and physical appearances of each filter layer were revealed using low accelerating voltage FE-SEM analysis of four commercial N95 FFR models. The particulate filtration efficiency (PFE) test was operated as means to identify genuine FFRs. The investigation revealed that each layer of N95 FFRs was fabricated in different fiber sizes. The outer and inner layers were larger fibers and with added water repellent capability and the filter in the middle layer was fabricated with smaller fibers. Results from testing of filtration efficiency showed that each mask sample showed a filtration capacity ranging from 94-98% of 0.3 microns particles. Additionally, the SEM image library of authentic fiber images could be used to quickly screen counterfeited FFRs from genuine ones.* »

Ostapenko OI, Pinkevich T V. **Criminal-legal counteraction to medicines and medical devices illegal circulation in Russian Federation.** *Eurasian J Biosci.* 2020;14(2):6889-6895.

Abstract. « *The purpose of the article is to develop theoretical provisions that characterize the criminal-legal nature and legal significance of crimes in the field of illicit trafficking in medicines and medical products, as well as to determine the optimal means of criminal-legal impact on these socially dangerous acts. The leading approach to the study of this problem is a system-structural analysis, which allows identifying promising ways to optimize the criminal law counteraction to illegal trafficking of medicines and medical products. The article identifies the sufficient to criminalize level of public danger of crimes related to illegal turnover of drugs and medical devices, determines the international legal framework for combating these crimes; specifies legally significant signs of crimes in the sphere of illegal turnover of drugs and medical products; highlights key aspects of differentiation of criminal responsibility for committing these crimes; the main directions of optimization of criminal-legal counteraction to crimes in the sphere of illegal turnover of medicines and medical products are defined. The materials of the article can be useful in the daily activities of law enforcement agencies, as well as for the legislative process.* »



Weerth C. **World Customs organization's role during the covid-19-pandemic: declarations, information distribution, guidance and leadership.** *Механізми публічного управління.* 2020;27:44-56. doi:10.32836/2310-9653-2020-4.8

*Extract. « Again it is urged by all stakeholders that all medical supplies must be delivered with a high priority and the trade in essential goods such as medication and food must be upheld and ensured over borders that are closed for humans in order to stop the spread of COVID-19. INTERPOL and EUROPOL and others are warning over new criminal approaches and counterfeit products in the COVID-19 pandemic.*

*This paper reviews the different initiatives, co-operations, declarations, lists and databases of the International Organizations and Intergovernmental Organizations that are newly emerging and are containing info on trade restrictions and trade facilitation during the COVID-19 pandemic and crisis. All information and free online databases are of the utmost importance to give insight, guidance and help in a global public health and economic emergency but mostly are pointing at the importance of trade facilitation – a topic that is not new but of the highest importance in times of a global emergency for all stakeholders to deliver medical supplies and necessary goods such as food to humans in need.»*

Additional publications prior to December 2020

Hasen G, Suleman S. **Regulatory authorities' preparedness to avert poor quality alcohol-based hand sanitizers during COVID-19 pandemic in Ethiopia: A commentary.** *Pharm Pharmacol Int J.* 2020;8(6):322-323. doi:10.15406/ppij.2020.08.00312

*Abstract. « The World Health Organization recommends the use of ethyl alcohol or isopropyl alcohol-based hand sanitizers to control the spread of the COVID 19 pandemic. As a result, a number of temporary guidelines and policies are being claimed among different countries of the world by waiving restrictions on the production of hand sanitizers which allow manufacturers, including alcohol beverage manufacturers, to produce alcohol-based hand sanitizers in midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Under such circumstances, there will be a high chance of producing substandard and counterfeit alcohol-based sanitizers by unscrupulous firms. In addition, the fragile regulatory authority coupled with the risk of using poor quality sanitizers highly requires the active preparedness of regulatory authorities in resource-limited settings, including Ethiopia. Therefore, the current commentary highly recommends the regulatory authority of Ethiopia to actively counterpart the spread of poor quality sanitizers. Moreover, assessment of the quality of alcohol-based hand sanitizer circulating in Ethiopia, a low-income country should be undertaken as soon as possible to assure its quality. »*

Kumar Bp S, Paul P, Ghosh S, Bn R, Roy AD. **General awarness (sic) and safety measures to combat covid-19.** *Int J Res Pharm Pharm Sci.* 2020;5(6):2455-2698. doi:10.5281/zenodo.4347072

*Extract. « There are so many cheap quality sanitizers which contain methanol are available in the market, which is harmful for the health. According to our study statistical analysis shows that 89.77% participants were aware about this and rest 10.23% participants were (sic) have no knowledge about sanitizers. »*

### 3.2. Seizures/Surveys/Case Reports/Reviews

Richards GC. **Alcohol-based hand sanitisers: a warning to mitigate future poisonings and deaths.** *BMJ Evidence-Based Med.* Published online December 1, 2020:bmjebm-2020-111568. doi:10.1136/bmjebm-2020-111568

*Extract. « There was a 157% increase in poisonings from alcohol-based hand sanitisers reported to the National Poisons Information Service in the UK between January and September 2019 and January and September 2020. Two case studies have also described accidental poisonings from the ingestion of*

hand sanitisers at home by children in Australia and the USA during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. The US CDC reported 15 poisonings and four deaths associated with the ingestion of hand sanitisers that were intentionally made with methanol instead of ethanol or isopropanol during the COVID-19 outbreak, and the FDA is taking action by regularly updating their “should not use” list of hand sanitisers to protect the public from further harm. This *BMJ EBM Coroners’ Concerns to Prevent Harms* article describes two deaths in England that occurred after the intentional and unintentional ingestion of alcohol-based hand sanitisers in healthcare facilities, and outlines recommendations to mitigate further harms. »

## 4. International organisations

Europol. **Early Warning Notification - Vaccine-related crime during the COVID-19 pandemic.** Published online December 4, 2020:1-2. Accessed January 15, 2021. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/publications-documents/early-warning-notification-vaccine-related-crime-during-covid-19-pandemic>

Extract. « *The detection of a fake influenza vaccine confirms that criminals seize opportunities as soon as they present themselves. Owing to the pandemic, the demand for the influenza vaccine has been higher than usual and there risks being a shortage. Criminals have reacted quickly by producing counterfeit influenza vaccines. The same scenario is also likely to happen when COVID-19 vaccines do become available. Criminals may attempt to exploit the current global focus on COVID-19 vaccines. Criminals may spread disinformation about vaccines to defraud individuals and companies. When a COVID-19 vaccine does become available, it will likely not be available for sale online. However, fraudulent pharmaceutical products advertised as allegedly treating or preventing COVID-19 are already on sale, both offline and online.* »

Europol. **Medicines and doping substances worth €73 million seized in Europe-wide operation.** Press Release. Published December 10, 2020. Accessed December 16, 2020. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/medicines-and-doping-substances-worth-€73-million-seized-in-europe-wide-operation>

Extract. « *Europol coordinated operation Shield, a global effort to target trafficking of counterfeit and misused medicines and doping substances. The operation was led by Finland, France, Greece and Italy and involved law enforcement authorities from 27\* countries (19 EU Member States and 8 third-party countries), the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), the Pharmaceutical Security Institute and the private sector. The operation took place between March and September 2020. During the operation, law enforcement officers dismantled 25 criminal groups, arrested nearly 700 suspects and seized large amounts of anti-cancer drugs, erectile dysfunction medicines, pseudoephedrine, various doping substances (hormone and metabolic regulators), drugs, painkillers, antioestrogens, antivirals, hypnotics, antihistamines and anxiolytics.[...] COVID-19-related fakes : (\*) Almost 33 million medical devices seized (face masks, tests, diagnosis kits) (\*) 8 tonnes of raw materials, chemicals and antivirals seized (\*) 70 000 litres of hygiene sanitizers seized.* »

Interpol. **INTERPOL warns of organized crime threat to COVID-19 vaccines.** News. Published December 2, 2020. Accessed December 8, 2020. <https://www.interpol.int/News-and-Events/News/2020/INTERPOL-warns-of-organized-crime-threat-to-COVID-19-vaccines>

Extract. « *The INTERPOL Orange Notice outlines potential criminal activity in relation to the falsification, theft and illegal advertising of COVID-19 and flu vaccines, with the pandemic having already triggered unprecedented opportunistic and predatory criminal behaviour. It also includes examples of crimes where individuals have been advertising, selling and administering fake vaccines. As a number of COVID-19 vaccines come closer to approval and global distribution, ensuring the safety of the supply chain and identifying illicit websites selling fake products will be essential. The need for coordination between law enforcement and health regulatory bodies will also play a vital role to ensure the safety of individuals and wellbeing of communities are protected.* »

Interpol & United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. **International operation disrupts supply of firearms to terrorists.** News. Published December 21, 2020. Accessed December 23, 2020. <https://www.interpol.int/en/News-and-Events/News/2020/International-operation-disrupts-supply-of-firearms-to-terrorists> and <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/frontpage/2020/December/international-operation-disrupts-supply-of-firearms-to-terrorists.html>

Extract. « A seven-day operation saw law enforcement officers intercept illicit firearms, ammunition and explosives, and disrupt the trafficking networks used to supply terrorists across West Africa and the Sahel. Under Operation KAFO II (30 November - 6 December), coordinated jointly by INTERPOL and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), frontline officers targeted smuggling hotspots at airports, seaports, and land borders in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger.[...] Against the backdrop of the current COVID-19 health crisis, officers also seized large quantities of contraband hand sanitizer gels, gloves and drugs, for which the market is flourishing. »

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. **Covid-19 Vaccines & Corruption Risks: Preventing Corruption in the Manufacture, Allocation and Distribution of Vaccines.** 2020. Accessed December 14, 2020. [https://www.unodc.org/documents/corruption/COVID-19/Policy\\_paper\\_on\\_COVID-19\\_vaccines\\_and\\_corruption\\_risks.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/corruption/COVID-19/Policy_paper_on_COVID-19_vaccines_and_corruption_risks.pdf)

Extract. « With COVID-19 vaccines being approved for use in different parts of the globe, the scale and complexity of their manufacture, allocation and distribution globally will be unprecedented. This will also present corruption risks that may threaten vital public health goals. These risks include the entry of substandard and falsified vaccines into markets, theft of vaccines within the distribution systems, leakages in emergency funding designated for the development and distribution of vaccines, nepotism, favouritism, and corrupted procurement systems. These corruption risks must be identified and mitigated by public institutions to help advance access to safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines by the population, including the most vulnerable and marginalized groups. The United Nations Convention against Corruption provides a solid global framework for these efforts. »

## World Health Organisation

Medical Product Alert	
<p><b>N°7/2020: Falsified HARVONI (Ledipasvir/sofosbuvir) identified in the WHO regions of the Americas and Europe</b></p> <p>2020 December 8</p>	<p>« This WHO Medical Product Alert relates to one batch of confirmed falsified HARVONI (Ledipasvir/sofosbuvir) identified in Brazil and Turkey. Falsified Harvoni was identified in Brazil in May 2020 and in Turkey in November 2020. WHO has received recent information that suggests these products are still in circulation. Available information indicates that these falsified medicines were supplied at patient level. The WHO Global Surveillance and Monitoring System database has prior records of other falsified Harvoni batches. Consistent reporting is essential to determine the scope and scale of such falsified products. »</p> <p><a href="https://www.who.int/news/item/08-12-2020-medical-product-alert-n-7-2020">https://www.who.int/news/item/08-12-2020-medical-product-alert-n-7-2020</a></p>

## 5. Miscellaneous

Mackey TK. **Risk of cyber superspreaders and influencers on product integrity: COVID-19 and beyond.** *The Brand Protection Professional, BPP.* <https://bpp.msu.edu/magazine/risk-of-superspreaders-and-influencers-on-product-integrity-covid19-and-beyond-december2020/>. Published December 2020. Accessed January 8, 2021.

Extract. « A key question that parallels the real-world epidemiological characteristics of COVID-19 superspreader events is whether these same dynamics apply to information transmission online, particularly how online contagion starts and spreads, and what individuals or organizations are behind these “digital outbreaks”. Some early evidence is emerging, particularly in the context of COVID-19 misinformation about drugs, vaccines, and other treatments, which can impact consumer perception and demand for these health products (Morrison and Heilweil, 2020). [...] Hence, the spread of misinformation about COVID-19 can have knock-on effects that can lead to greater and unsubstantiated demand for COVID-19-related treatments, including products that may be in shortage, are not approved for use by regulatory agencies or that lack scientific evidence about their safety and efficacy. This can also open the door for fraudsters and counterfeiters who seek to fill the gap between misinformation and ensuing consumer demand that cannot be met by legitimate sources, as evidenced by numerous reports of counterfeit COVID-19 tests, medications, and protective personal equipment being seized by customs officials (CBP, 2020; Sutton, 2020). However, the strategies used by these “influencers” and their impact on public safety has not yet been explored sufficiently in the broader product integrity and anti-counterfeiting area. »

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI). **Operation Stolen Promise 2.0.** Published December 2020. Accessed January 18, 2021. <https://www.ice.gov/topics/operation-stolen-promise>

Extract. « U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) launched Operation Stolen Promise (OSP) in April 2020 to protect the Homeland from the increasing and evolving threat posed by COVID-19-related fraud and criminal activity. Since the Operation’s inception, HSI has capitalized upon its unique and expansive federal criminal investigative authorities; its strong intelligence analysis capabilities and resources; its expansive domestic and international footprint; and its robust law enforcement and private sector partnerships to lead the government’s investigative response to pandemic-related crime. In the coming months, HSI anticipates that high public demand for access to vaccines and treatments will lead to illegal attempts to introduce counterfeit versions of these items into U.S. and global marketplaces. In response, HSI has initiated Operation Stolen Promise 2.0, which expands the focus of OSP to address this emerging public health threat. »

Fight the Fakes. **Updated statement regarding COVID-19 and falsified medical products. Updates.** Published December 2020. Accessed January 19, 2021. <http://fightthefakes.org/updated-statement-regarding-covid-19-and-falsified-medical-products/>

Extract. « The Fight the Fakes Alliance and its members would like to stress that the risk of falsified versions of such vaccines being advertised is imminent. With approved diagnostics, treatments and vaccines it is now more important than ever to only purchase medical products from trusted, authorized sources. Particularly buying COVID-19 medical products from unknown, unauthorized online sellers or online pharmacies bears a high risk of purchasing falsified products. Using medical products that have not been approved for COVID-19 without medical supervision pose a significant risk to patient’s well-being and safety. Any misleading and deliberately fake information on COVID-19 circulating on social media and media has been described as an infodemic by the WHO. The Fight the Fakes Alliance is calling on all its members and the broader global health community to raise awareness of falsified medical products promising to treat, protect from or cure COVID-19. We are no longer just fighting a virus, but now also an ever-growing infodemic »

Additional publications prior to December 2020

Farrell G, Johnson SD. **Preventing a Coronavirus Vaccine Crime Wave.** *UCL JDI Spec Ser COVID-19.* 2020;(24):1-2. Accessed January 4, 2021. [https://www.ucl.ac.uk/jill-dando-institute/sites/jill-dando-institute/files/vaccine\\_crime\\_wave\\_no\\_24\\_final.pdf](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/jill-dando-institute/sites/jill-dando-institute/files/vaccine_crime_wave_no_24_final.pdf)

Extract. « *Huge increases in theft and robberies can be expected, including interceptions of shipments, counterfeiting and other fraud, and black-markets (with high prices), promoting corruption and organised crime. Monetary costs will be in the billions. Human costs will arise as vaccine distribution is disrupted and delayed, and as counterfeits are used by unsuspecting victims. Vaccine distribution will be hindered and effectiveness reduced. If reinfection and virus mutations extend the vaccination process, they will potentially also extend the crime.* »

Nikolovska M, Johnson S. **Covid19 and Medical Counterfeits.** *UCL JDI Spec Ser COVID-19.* 2020;(10):1-2. Accessed January 4, 2021. [https://www.ucl.ac.uk/jill-dando-institute/sites/jill-dando-institute/files/medical\\_counterfeits\\_final\\_no\\_10.pdf](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/jill-dando-institute/sites/jill-dando-institute/files/medical_counterfeits_final_no_10.pdf)

Extract. « *Criminals have been exploiting the COVID-19 pandemic by selling fake medical and health products online or door-to-door. Such fraudulent goods have included COVID-19 testing kits, medicines that treat, prevent or cure COVID-19, and COVID-19 protective equipment, such as face masks and hygiene products. Relevant stakeholders have been urging caution and promoting public awareness of the existence of such illicit goods. However, fear around the pandemic can trigger impulsive and protective behaviours, increasing people's vulnerability to such scams.* »

Queensland Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy. **Fake disposable respiratory protective equipment supplied to Queensland Coal Mines.** Mines safety alert. Published March 14, 2020. Accessed January 8, 2021. <https://www.rshq.qld.gov.au/safety-notices/mines/fake-disposable-respiratory-protective-equipment-rpe-supplied-to-queensland-coal-mines>

Extract. « *It has come to our attention that current demand for respiratory protection has resulted in sub-standard or "fake" respirators entering the industry that, despite being appropriately branded, have not been manufactured in accordance with a relevant standard or equivalent international scheme (i.e. ANZS, NIOSH etc). It can be difficult to distinguish between authentic and fake RPE devices. The packaging and the appearance of these "fake" respirators can be very deceptive. The packaging will often list a protection factor (eg. P2, KN95 or N95) and include fraudulent labelling of the relevant certification body. Examples of some of the fake RPE encountered are provided below.* »

## 6. Lay literature

### 6.1 Disclaimer & Notes

The information included below is based on the data used to create the Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe<sup>8</sup> (MQM Globe). It contains publicly available information on the quality of medical products from non-peer-reviewed lay literature. We report the information as it is stated in the articles and can thus be biased towards the authors perspective. It does not necessarily reflect our vision or judgment on the issue. Also, this information usually will not have scientific confirmation. Therefore, the information needs to be interpreted with the greatest caution. We regard the reports as early warnings of potential problems. No or few articles from a region does not imply that the medical product quality there is good, but probably reflects a lack of accessible information. Full disclaimer and caveats can be found at [MQM Globe disclaimer and caveats](#)<sup>9</sup>.

The Google News search tool is used to capture data from online news sources. Articles matching the search terms are loaded into a database and curated by trained analysts. Because the Globe system extracts newspaper articles from journals referenced in Google News only, reports not referenced in Google News would not be captured. [Please consult the IDDO website for full methodology](#)<sup>10</sup>. On the 20th of March, the search terms were adapted to capture more papers on substandard and falsified (SF) medical supplies for COVID-19 from Google News. In addition, the Globe system captures the United States Food and Drug Administration (US FDA) medical products alerts. In the future, we will extend this feature to other regulatory authorities.

The articles discussed in the sections below are available in the Globe-reports, in this report's annexes, or on the online MQM Globe using the report ID (six digits code). The MQM Globe-reports are generated with pre-defined search terms, which enable quick access to reports of (a) COVID vaccines, (b) COVID diagnostics, (c) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), (d) Sanitisers and disinfectants, (e) COVID medicines, and (f) Ventilators and Positive end-expiratory pressure. Only the relevant articles included in the MQM Globe-reports are selected for the current COVID-19 report. For alerts from January to September the Globe-report for PPE included sanitisers and disinfectants. From October onwards sanitisers and disinfectants are grouped in a separate Globe-report. The search terms applied to search the Globe database to compile the Globe-reports were revised in October & November. Therefore caution is required when interpreting the number of alerts or articles over time.

In this report we share details of articles captured by the MQM Globe that are linked to medical products potentially used in the context of COVID-19 or to active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) that are being trialled for COVID-19 treatment and/or prevention. In theory there is a distinction between (a) SF incidents that are due to or increased by the COVID-19 epidemic; and (b) incidents that would have happened in any case. It can be difficult to make the distinction between the two types of incidents and some reports cited below are

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<sup>8</sup>Infectious Diseases Data Observatory. Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe. Web Page. Published 2020. Accessed October 16, 2020. <https://www.iddo.org/medicine-quality-monitoring-globe>

<sup>9</sup>Infectious Diseases Data Observatory. Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe disclaimer and caveats. Web Page. Published 2020. Accessed October 19, 2020. <https://www.iddo.org/medicine-quality-monitoring-globe-disclaimer-and-caveats>

<sup>10</sup>Infectious Diseases Data Observatory. Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe methodology. Web Page. Published 2020. Accessed October 19, 2020. <https://www.iddo.org/medicine-quality-monitoring-globe-methodology>

not directly linked to the treatment of COVID-19. Nevertheless we have included them as they represent crossover risks and help to assess the evolution of the alerts on these medical products over time. Although oxycodone is trialled<sup>11</sup>, we do not include issues related to oxycodone as the system would become swamped by reports on its inappropriate use and cases of pills laced with fentanyl due to their wide occurrence on the black market. Non-COVID-19 medicines, containing hidden API(s) that are used or trialled for COVID-19 are, since the November 2020 issue, no longer included in the COVID-19 reports (e.g. hidden sildenafil in sexual enhancement supplements). Only medicines for which the stated API is used or trialled for COVID-19 are included in the COVID-19 report (e.g. falsified 'Viagra'). The observed decrease of the number of articles/alerts (Figure 1-3) may at least partially be due to this change.

For this report, we only included data that were published in English. For articles in French, Spanish, Mandarin, and Vietnamese; please consult the online MQM Globe. We will continuously work to improve the MQM Globe and plan to add in articles in other languages to this report. Any remarks or additions to content are encouraged (please write to [medicinequality@iddo.org](mailto:medicinequality@iddo.org)).

### **Changes in search strategy since the last Medical Product Quality Report - COVID-19 issues<sup>12</sup>**

None

## **6.2 Articles on substandard or falsified medical products for COVID-19: main characteristics**

Throughout 2020 the MQM Globe database tracked lay press publications related to SF medical products. In the English literature we identified over 469 relevant articles reporting on incidents linked to COVID-19 medical products (Figure 1). For December we report on 31 articles. Within those articles, 2 alerted on diagnostics, 5 on falsified vaccines, 5 are linked to hand sanitisers and disinfectants, 11 to COVID-19 related treatments and 14 to personal protective equipment (PPE) (Figure 2 and 3). Since June, the MQM Globe has not identified any reports linked to SF ventilation equipment.

In the following sections each category of products is discussed separately. However, some articles report on several product categories issues. On the 10<sup>th</sup> of December results of the Europol coordinated project Shield were released<sup>13</sup> (report ID 839814). During the operation, running from March to September 2020, nineteen EU member states and eight third-party countries worked together to target traffic of falsified and misused medicines, and doping substances. Many of the seizures involved COVID-19 related supplies such as raw materials and chemicals, face masks, COVID-19 tests and diagnostic kits, sanitisers, and antivirals.

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<sup>11</sup>Hashemian SRM. Evaluation the effects of Oxycodone administration on pain control in patients with COVID-19. Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials. Published June 8, 2020. Accessed October 9, 2020. <https://en.irct.ir/trial/48534>

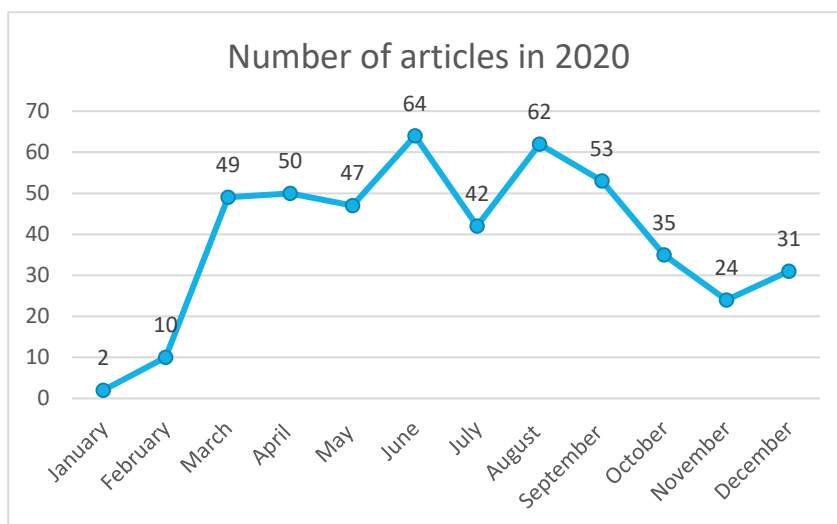
<sup>12</sup>Infectious Diseases Data Observatory. Medical Product Quality Reports. Medical Product Quality Reports. Published 2020. Accessed January 13, 2021. <https://www.iddo.org/mq/research/medical-product-quality-reports>  
Lay literature

<sup>13</sup>Europol. Medicines and doping substances worth €73 million seized in Europe-wide operation. Press Release. Published December 10, 2020. Accessed December 16, 2020. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/medicines-and-doping-substances-worth-€73-million-seized-in-europe-wide-operation>

By beginning of December 2020 “Nearly 20 factories selling substandard face masks, disinfectants and hand sanitisers have been busted in the UAE [United Arab Emirates] since the outbreak of the virus” according to the Legal Group Advocates and Legal Consultants in the United Arab Emirates (report ID 834891). The seizures of SF masks and hand sanitizers were not discussed in detail except for a seizure that concerned 2,000 boxes, each containing 120 falsified N95 respirators.

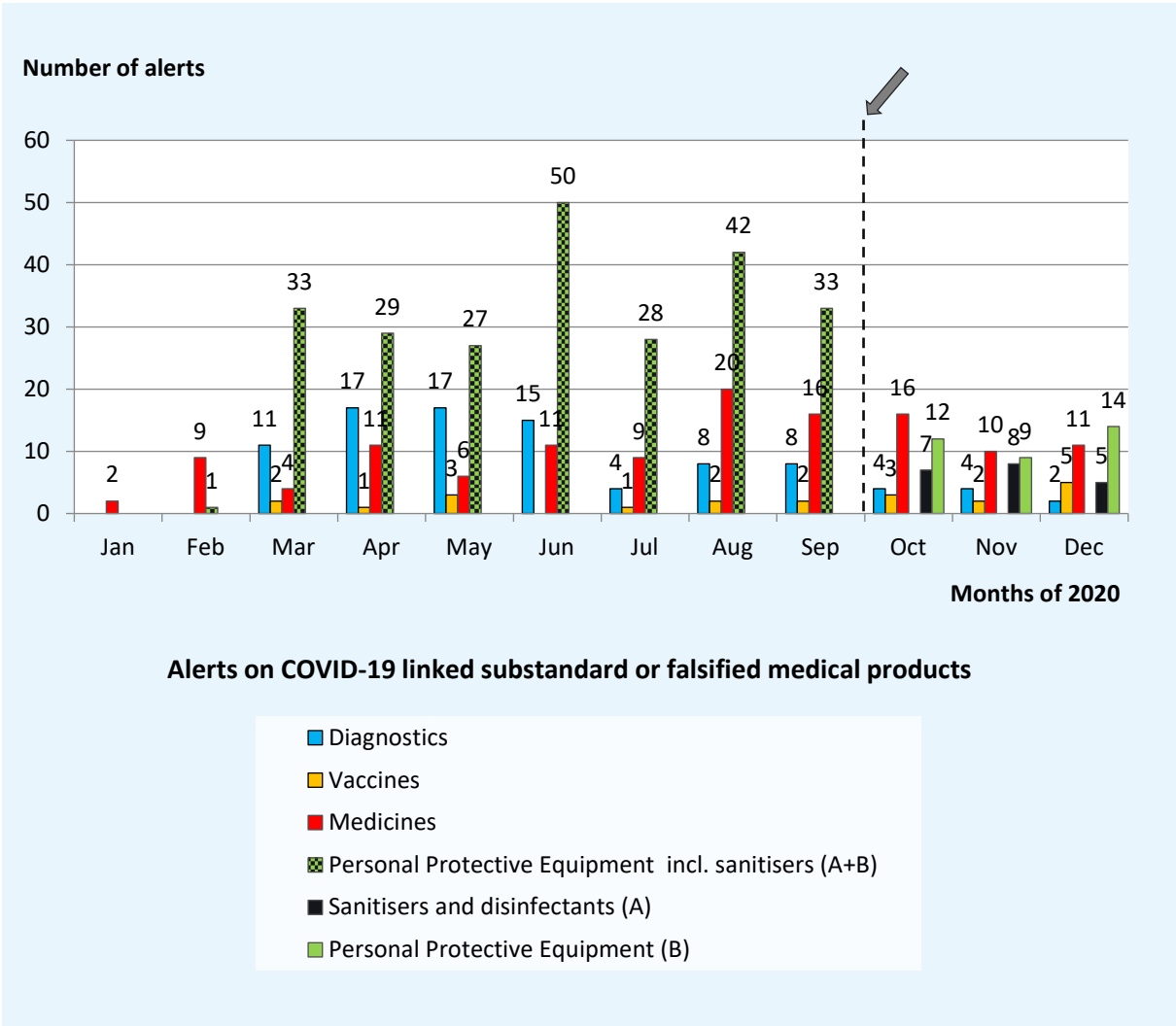
In April 2020, the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) launched Operation Stolen Promise, a law enforcement and private sector partnership (report ID 838504). As of beginning of December there were 1,727 COVID-19 related seizures such as unauthorised COVID-19 test kits, unauthorised pharmaceuticals and falsified masks<sup>14</sup>. In December 2020 Operation stolen Promise 2.0 was launched to focus on “new and evolving public health threat posed by the illicit sale and distribution of counterfeit or unauthorized vaccines and treatments.”

**Figure 1. Number of articles on the Medicines Quality Monitoring Globe linked to substandard or falsified COVID-19 supplies by month.** AS SOME ARTICLES DESCRIBE MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY OF PRODUCTS, THE SUM OF ALERTS PER MONTH AS SHOWN IN FIGURE 2 AND 3 MAY EXCEED THE SUM OF ARTICLES PER MONTH OF FIGURE 1. NOTE THAT SINCE NOVEMBER, NON-COVID-19 MEDICINES CONTAINING HIDDEN API(S) THAT IS/ARE USED OR TRIALLED FOR COVID-19 ARE NO LONGER INCLUDED IN THE COVID-19 REPORTS. ONLY MEDICINES FOR WHICH THE STATED API IS USED OR TRIALLED FOR COVID-19 TREATMENT ARE INCLUDED IN THE COVID-19 REPORT. THE OBSERVED DECREASE OF THE NUMBER OF ARTICLES ON MEDICINES CAN BE AT LEAST PARTIALLY DUE TO THIS CHANGE.



<sup>14</sup>U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI). Operation Stolen Promise 2.0. Published December 2020. Accessed January 18, 2021. <https://www.ice.gov/topics/operation-stolen-promise>





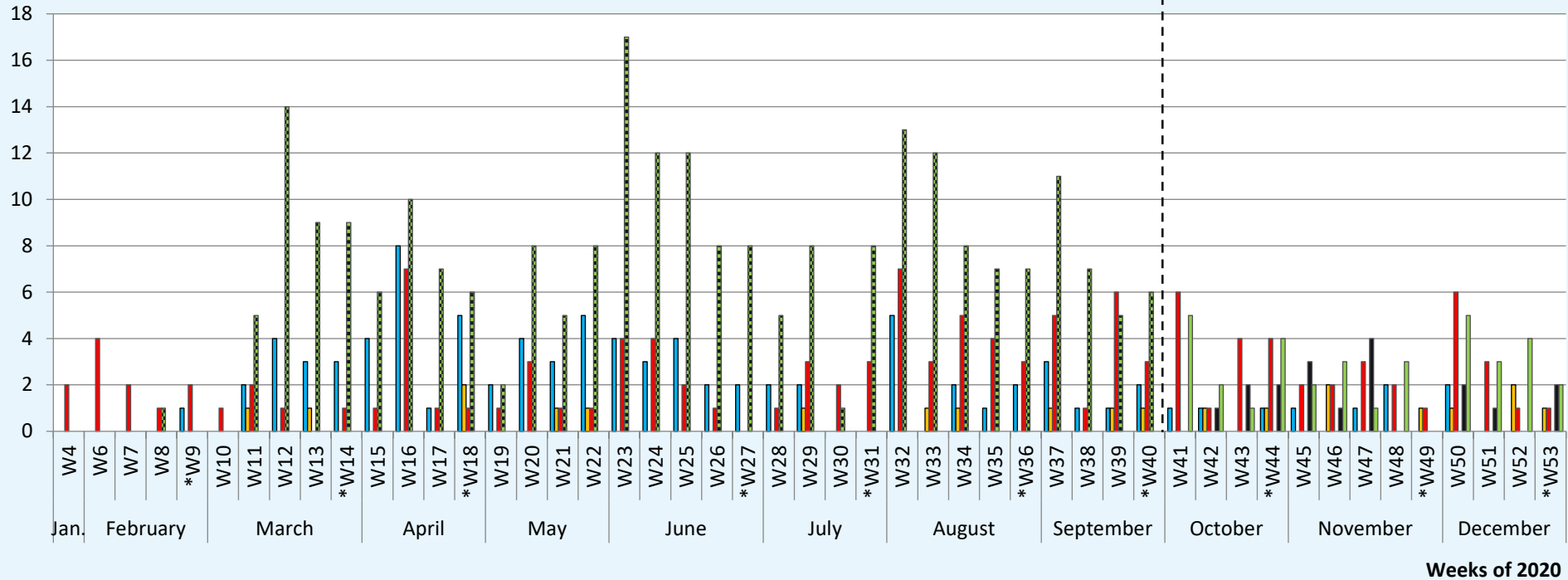
**Figure 2. Number of alerts on the Medicines Quality Monitoring Globe by category of products and by month.** ALERTS ARE FOR SUBSTANDARD OR FALSIFIED PRODUCTS LINKED TO COVID-19. AS SOME ARTICLES DESCRIBE MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY OF PRODUCTS, THE SUM OF ALERTS PER MONTH MAY EXCEED THE SUM OF ARTICLES PER MONTH REPORTED IN FIGURE 1. THE ARROW INDICATES THE END OF SEPTEMBER WHEN THE CATEGORY OF “PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT INCL. SANITISERS” WAS SPLIT IN TWO DISTINCT CATEGORIES: (A) SANITISERS AND DISINFECTANTS, AND (B) PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT.

NOTE THAT SINCE NOVEMBER, NON-COVID-19 MEDICINES CONTAINING HIDDEN API(S) THAT IS/ARE USED OR TRIALLED FOR COVID-19 ARE NO LONGER INCLUDED IN THE COVID-19 REPORTS. ONLY MEDICINES FOR WHICH THE STATED API IS USED OR TRIALLED FOR COVID-19 TREATMENT ARE INCLUDED IN THE COVID-19 REPORT. THE OBSERVED DECREASE OF THE NUMBER OF ARTICLES ON MEDICINES CAN BE AT LEAST PARTIALLY DUE TO THIS CHANGE.

### Alerts on COVID-19 linked substandard or falsified medical products

■ Diagnostics 
 ■ Vaccines 
 ■ Medicines 
 ■ Personal Protective Equipment incl. sanitisers (AB) 
 ■ Sanitisers and disinfectants (A) 
 ■ Personal Protective Equipment (B)

Number of alerts



**Figure 3. Number of alerts on the Medicines Quality Monitoring Globe by category and by week.**

ALERTS ARE FOR SUBSTANDARD OR FALSIFIED PRODUCTS LINKED TO COVID-19. WEEK 4 STARTS ON MONDAY 20TH OF JANUARY 2020 AND WEEK 49 ENDS ON THURSDAY 31TH OF DECEMBER 2020. WEEKS WITH AN ASTERISK ARE OVERLAPPING 2 MONTHS, EACH TIME THE WEEK IS ATTRIBUTED TO THE EARLIEST MONTH. AS SOME ARTICLES DESCRIBE MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY OF PRODUCTS, THE SUM OF ALERTS PER MONTH MAY EXCEED THE SUM OF ARTICLES PER MONTH REPORTED IN FIGURE 1. (\*) THE ARROW INDICATES THE END OF SEPTEMBER WHEN THE CATEGORY OF "PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT INCL. SANITISERS" WAS SPLIT IN TWO DISTINCT CATEGORIES: (A) SANITISERS AND DISINFECTANTS, AND (B) PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT. (\*) NOTE THAT SINCE NOVEMBER, NON-COVID-19 MEDICINES CONTAINING HIDDEN API(S) THAT IS/ARE USED OR TRIALLED FOR COVID-19 ARE NO LONGER INCLUDED IN THE COVID-19 REPORTS. ONLY MEDICINES FOR WHICH THE STATED API IS USED OR TRIALLED FOR COVID-19 TREATMENT ARE INCLUDED IN THE COVID-19 REPORT. THE OBSERVED DECREASE OF THE NUMBER OF ARTICLES CAN BE AT LEAST PARTIALLY DUE TO THIS CHANGE.

## 6.3 Vaccines

At the beginning of December Interpol issued a global alert to their 194 member countries to warn of the threat of organized crime for COVID-19 vaccines both off- and online (see section 4. *International Organisations*). Various articles in our MQM Globe database<sup>15</sup> report on this Interpol warning. Governmental officials and experts, in countries from USA and Canada to UK and Angola, are translating the warning to their local communities. They repeat the risk of falsification, theft and illegal advertising of COVID-19 vaccines. In this report we only describe the incidents identified during the month of December. The MQM Globe holds 5 different articles on diverted and/or falsified COVID-19 vaccines for December.

An article reported on a notice that was published by Interpol on falsified COVID-19 vaccines in South Africa (report ID: 865724). In November three people were arrested allegedly importing unregistered COVID-19 vaccines from China.

In mid-December, although no vaccine has been validated by the Philippines' FDA, in a district in Manila what were alleged COVID-19 vaccines were sold and administered (report ID 855225). One of the offered vaccines was allegedly the Chinese vaccine made by Sinopharm.

In the second half of December there was an alert in Brazil on falsified corona vaccines allegedly sold in a market in Rio (report ID 890939). One of the testimonies said that the packaging stated "*SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine, inactivated 4µg/0.5mL*" from the company Beijing Institute of Biological Products Co. Ltd and was sold for R\$ 50 (approximately US \$9). Investigations are ongoing. According to the Portuguese version of the article there is a suspicion that the story might be a "*fake news*".

Two articles discuss the offer of multiple COVID-19 vaccines on the Dark Web, many allegedly being the Pfizer vaccine. The article in the beginning of December (report ID 830853) reports on a vaccine sold for \$1,300 "*a piece*". In addition it reports on a variety of claims of vendors who describe themselves as pharmacists, having acquired the product from the government and others also claiming to have a stockpile of 560 doses. In the middle of December another article (report ID 841777) reported on similar issues on the Dark Web. One coronavirus vaccine was offered for \$250. Another offer claimed the need for 14 doses, each at 0.01 bitcoin (approximately \$350), to attain full coverage. It is unlikely that these vendors are legitimate. If there is no product the buyers are victim of fraudulent sales, but if the buyer receives a product, (s)he cannot be sure of what was in the vial. The product could be a toxic substance or it can be inactive, leaving the buyers to believe themselves to be immunized against COVID-19 when they have not.

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<sup>15</sup>Infectious Diseases Data Observatory. Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe. Web Page. Published 2020. Accessed January 14, 2021. <https://www.iddo.org/medicine-quality-monitoring-globe>

## 6.4 COVID-19 diagnostics

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis falsified, substandard or unregistered COVID-19 diagnostics have been circulating. An illustration is given by the results of the Europol coordinated project Shield mentioned in section 6.2 of this report (report ID 839814). The seizures performed between March and September 2020 included COVID-19 tests and diagnostic kits. Even though the MQM Globe currently holds fewer articles on these products compared to the beginning of the pandemic, seizures continue. On the first of December US customs seized a shipment coming from Mexico containing “251 illicit COVID-19 testing kits” (report ID 842418).

## 6.5 Personal protective equipment

The Medical Product Quality Report of September<sup>16</sup> reported on a case in Taiwan where a company was importing and repacking over 3 million Chinese masks as ‘Carry Mask’ and selling them as “*Made in Taiwan*”. In mid-December the owner of the company was sued for this case (report ID 847198). In addition, the article reports that the owner of Carry Mask is still under investigation for the distribution of unauthorized children’s masks.

In the Philippines, 10 Chinese nationals were arrested for selling falsified ‘Heng De’ face masks and face shields (report ID 835632). They were operating in 3 different shopping malls. The falsified face masks only had printing in blue whereas the genuine product has a gold embossed logo.

In Thailand the police, the FDA and the Thai Industrial Standards Institute raided a factory producing medical products without permission (report ID 863689). They seized 10,161 boxes containing 7.61 million gloves. The Chinese owner and 11 Cambodian workers were detained. They also allegedly imported substandard gloves from China.

In South Africa, the University of Cape Town published the results of mask analysis; none of the masks tested provided the required protection putting at risk the health care workers (report ID 847945). The nursing union demanded the withdrawal of at least 12 brands of KN95 face masks. In South Africa law-enforcement agencies seized a large quantity of falsified N95 masks (report 865724).

In December, the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) reported on a case of falsified N95 masks in Egypt that dates from the beginning of the pandemic (report ID 891327). In at least 15 out of the 27 isolation hospitals, treating severe COVID-19 patients, medical staff were using expired and falsified masks. The masks were bought in 2007 by the Ministry of Health. An Egyptian company High Tech For Projects and Trading S.A.E. allegedly bought and imported the masks from Xiantao Fushi Protective Products Co., a Chinese manufacturer. The masks were labelled as TY 0424, which corresponds to a falsified version according to the list of

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<sup>16</sup>Infectious Diseases Data Observatory. Medical Product Quality Reports. Medical Product Quality Reports. Published 2020. Accessed January 13, 2021. <https://www.iddo.org/mq/research/medical-product-quality-reports>

the US National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). The packing misrepresented a NIOSH approval, falsely claimed them to be N95 and did not give an expiry date.

Health Canada warned against companies selling unauthorised PPEs (report ID 859256), in particular the company Maskopia, former Medkem Canada Inc. that allegedly sells PPE such as masks, gloves and gowns without licence, and that made false or misleading claims. For example, they claimed to be approved by Health Canada as a manufacturer for surgical masks and are allegedly selling non-medical masks as medical masks. Provincial day-care centres in Quebec have been reported as using substandard MC9501 masks between May and November (report ID 859961). Quebec's workplace health and safety authority deemed the filtration capability insufficient.

Multiple articles reported on seizures of falsified masks in the USA. Most of the seizures involved falsified 3M respirators and were performed by custom agents. During the first week of December, over 100,000 falsified 3M N95 masks were seized in Texas by the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the US ICE HSI (report ID 838504). The masks were destined for hospital workers. Another article reports on seizures of falsified masks in Arizona (report ID 867638). Between mid-November and the end of December, HSI and US CBP seized more than 200,000 masks, all intended for hospital workers and medical staff. Another shipment coming from Hong Kong and destined for Jamaica was seized by the US CBP in Ohio where the shipment was transiting (report ID 845172). The US CBP applied the "*3M Safe Guard product authentication process*" and thirty-eight boxes containing 6,080 masks appeared to be falsely labelled as 3M Disposable Respirators Model 8210.

Another case of falsified 3M respirators was encountered by the state of Minnesota (report ID 858111). The state intended to buy 500,000 N95 respirators from the company Supply Link Inc. Before concluding the transaction the state sent a sample to 3M for verification and the sample appeared to be a falsified version of the 3M Respirators Model 1860. The company Supply Link Inc claims to be victim of a "*professional counterfeit operation*" and started an investigation.

## 6.6 Sanitisers and disinfectants

The Indian Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) released their monthly routine quality tests on a range of pharmaceutical products results for November. Two hand sanitizers were declared as "*Not of Standard Quality*" after failing the tests for the assay of ethyl/isopropyl alcohol and/or acidity, and/or limit of non-volatile residue: Xerorub Hand Santizer and Pure-hand Zenitizer (report ID 848258).

In the USA, Shane Erickson Inc. recalled 3 brands of hand sanitizers because of concerns that there might be methanol contamination within the IMC Wash Free Hand Sanitizer, Wash Free Hand Sanitizer and Thrifty White Pharmacy Hand Sanitizer (report ID: 867578). The products were manufactured in China and distributed across the USA to wholesalers and retail customers. The products have been added to the

US FDA's Do-Not-Use-List<sup>17</sup> of hand sanitizers. At the end of December the list contained 224 lines, each potentially including several products.

The US FDA send a warning letter to the Mexican company Broncolin concerning the quality of its hand sanitizers (report ID 867207). The goods were detained and refused admission at the USA border because they were adulterated and not approved by the US FDA. The Herbacil Antiseptic Hand Sanitizer was stated to contain 70% ethanol but analysis showed that the ethanol content ranged from 0.4% to only 4.7% v/v and the methanol from 66% to 75% v/v.

## 6.7 COVID-19 medicines

In this section we share details of articles captured by the MQM Globe that contain the same active pharmaceutical ingredient as medicines that are approved, trialed or used by patients in the context of COVID-19. We included all those type of products even if for certain treatments the efficacy is not proven in the prevention or treatment of COVID-19 patients.

An article published in December mentions SF chloroquine in Senegal (report ID 836690<sup>18</sup>). The article refers to news published in July 2020 reporting on 2 incidents, one on substandard chloroquine that was smuggled from Guinea into Senegal and one on falsified chloroquine Niruquine, a product highlighted in the WHO Alert N°4<sup>19</sup>. In India a criminal allegedly sold diluted plasma as COVID-19 treatment (report ID 843934). The family contacted the blood bank after the patient died and found out they had been tricked by the vendor. The Indian CDSCO released the monthly routine quality tests on a range of pharmaceutical products results for November (report ID 848258). For COVID-19 medicines, the article only lists Telmisartan and two paracetamol products declared as “*Not of Standard Quality*” after failing the tests for dissolution or related substances<sup>20</sup>.

Janssens issued an alert in the US on falsified Symtuza (darunavir/cobicistat/emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide), an antiretroviral (report ID 865867). The product was found in 3 pharmacies and was procured from unauthorized distributors. Darunavir/cobistat and emtricitabine/tenofovir are all trialed for their use

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<sup>17</sup>United States Food and Drug Administration. FDA updates on hand sanitizers consumers should not use. Viewed 12 January 2021, Available from <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fdaupdates-hand-sanitizers-consumers-should-not-use>

<sup>18</sup>The report ID also references to SF chloroquine in Cameroon. Incidents in Cameroon are reported in previous issues of the Medical Product Quality Report – Covid-19 issues: Issue 1 covering January to June 30, and issue 2 covering July. Source: Infectious Diseases Data Observatory. Medical Product Quality Reports. Medical Product Quality Reports. Published 2020. Accessed January 13, 2021. <https://www.iddo.org/mq/research/medical-product-quality-reports>

<sup>19</sup>World Health Organization. Medical Product Alert N°4/2020 - Annex. Medical Product Alert. Published April 9, 2020. Accessed January 13, 2021. [https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/essential-medicines/drug-alerts20/drug-alert-4/update-n4-2020-annex-en.pdf?sfvrsn=44895ab0\\_8](https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/essential-medicines/drug-alerts20/drug-alert-4/update-n4-2020-annex-en.pdf?sfvrsn=44895ab0_8)

<sup>20</sup>Central Drugs Standard Control Organization. List of Drugs, Medical Devices and Cosmetics declared as Not of Standard Quality/Spurious/Adulterated/Misbranded, for the Month of November-2020. Drug Alert List. Published December 15, 2020. Accessed January 13, 2021. [https://cdsco.gov.in/opencms/openncms/system/modules/CDSCO.WEB/elements/download\\_file\\_division.jsp?num\\_id=Njc2NQ==](https://cdsco.gov.in/opencms/openncms/system/modules/CDSCO.WEB/elements/download_file_division.jsp?num_id=Njc2NQ==)

against SARS-CoV-2, but the combination of all four products is not.

In December the US CBP revealed that together with the local police and US HSI they had seized more than one million falsified sildenafil, Viagra, tablets at a seaport in Los Angeles (report ID 850803).

During 2020, the national police service of the Republic of Ireland, seized many drugs, almost double the value of 2019 (report ID 844349). The seized products included €950,000 worth of the medicine ketamine.

### **Quality issues during the production process**

AvKARE, a pharmaceutical distributor, recalled 2 products in the USA: 100-count bottles of 100mg Sildenafil tablets and 1,000-count bottles of 100mg Trazodone tablets (report ID 840715). During the bottling at a 3<sup>rd</sup> party facility a “product mix-up” occurred.

Due to a packaging issue leaving “holes” in the bottom of multiple bottles GlaxoSmithKline USA had to recall 5 brands of Excedrin (Aspirin/paracetamol/caffeine), representing 433,600 bottles (report ID 862732).

In Japan a serious case of substandard itraconazole 50 'MEEK' of the manufacturer Kobayashi Kako Co. was reported (report ID 843376, 851679). Due to an error in the production process itraconazole has been contaminated with rilmazafone hydrochloride, a sleep-inducing substance. In December, 2 deaths were reported following the intake of the product, although for one case there was not necessarily a causal relationship between the intake of the medicine and the death (report ID 851679). The batch was produced in July and released on the market from September onwards. There are 133 reported cases of adverse drugs reactions such as loss of consciousness and memory. Several traffic accidents are linked to the intake of the contaminated itraconazole tablets. The recall of the product is ongoing. The company acknowledged the error and started an investigation.

## **7 Annexes**

The annexes contain the reports generated by the MQM-Globe using pre-defined search terms. The report IDs (six digits code) discussed in section 6 ‘Lay literature’ are detailed in the annexes or available on the online MQM Globe<sup>21</sup>, using the report ID in the search box.

### **7.1 Vaccines**

### **7.2 COVID-19 diagnostics**

### **7.3 Personal protective equipment**

### **7.4 Sanitisers and disinfectants**

### **7.5 COVID-19 medicines**

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<sup>21</sup>Infectious Diseases Data Observatory. Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe. Web Page. Published 2020. Accessed October 16, 2020. <https://www.iddo.org/medicine-quality-monitoring-globe>

## **Annex**

### **7.1 Vaccines**



# Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe

January 18, 2021



This is a summary of the information available in the Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe for the search terms selected between the dates selected. For more information on the terminology used, caveats and the work of the medicine quality group please see the information at: <https://www.iddo.org/medicine-quality>

Non-Curated reports are those that have been automatically flagged as relevant by the system but have not been manually curated by the curators.

We would be grateful for any feedback on this summary and for the details of any reports that we may have missed.

## Filters applied for this report

**Search** ("vaccine" OR "Sputnik V" OR "CoronaVac" OR "Ad5-nCoV") AND ("CV19" OR "新冠病毒" OR "武汉新型冠状病毒" OR "非典" OR "SARS" OR "CoV-2" OR "ví rus corona" OR "武汉肺炎" OR "COVID-19" OR "COVID" OR "新冠疫情" OR "新型冠状病毒肺炎" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "CV" OR "Coronavirus" OR "CV-19" OR "SRAS" OR "新型冠状病毒" OR "新冠")

<b>Start date</b>	2020-12-01
<b>End date</b>	2020-12-31
<b>Language</b>	en
<b>Report type</b>	incident
<b>Curation status</b>	validated
<b>Number of Reports</b>	6

# 1 Creative Professional Says He Saw Street Vendor Selling a False Vaccine in Rio for \$R50

Publication date	2020-12-23
Create date	2021-01-14
Score	40.67
Report id	890939
Category	Vaccine
Quality	Falsified
Source	Street vendors
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: Creative Professional Says He Saw Street Vendor Selling a False Vaccine in Rio for \$R50 Folha de S.Paulo

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 1: Places for report 890939

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	Brazil	Rio de Janeiro	-22.90642	-43.18223

Notes: [...] The 58-year-old was born and raised in the region but something surprised him Monday. Jones had to put his glasses to make sure he saw correct. "In my hand it's is a R\$50, in my hand it is a \$R50, it is Covid's cure!" He heard as he passed the sidewalk that is in front of the Império Serrano school.

"Galo" in Rio slang means that it costs R \$ 50, one of the numbers representing the animal in the animal game. He thought it was some syrup.

But when he stretched his neck over the vendor's shoulder, he came across a box with (in what appears to be) Chinese writing. Underneath, it read "SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine, Inactivated", a supposed vaccine against the new coronavirus.

## 2 Darknet Drug Dealers Are Now Selling ‘Pfizer COVID Vaccines’

Publication date	2020-12-04
Create date	2020-12-04
Score	18.74
Report id	830853
Category	Vaccine
Quality	Substandard or Falsified
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: Darknet Drug Dealers Are Now Selling ‘Pfizer COVID Vaccines’ VICE

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 2: Places for report 830853

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	Brooklyn	40.6501	-73.94958

Table 3: Drugs for report 830853

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
			J07

Table 4: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
860169	Beware of scams advertising fake COVID-19 vaccines, early access	<a href="#">Link</a>
836387	Drug Dealers on the Dark Web are illegally selling ‘Pfizer COVID Vaccines’	<a href="#">Link</a>
867680	Beware of scams advertising fake COVID-19 vaccines, early access	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: [...] And yet in certain corners of the Internet, the “Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine” is already

being listed for sale.

VICE World News found multiple vendors on the darknet who appeared to be selling doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine to global customers for as much as USD\$1,300 a piece.

"The doses of the COVID-19 vaccine has [sic] been developed by Pfizer and BioNTec," reads the description of one such product. "We can deliver in any country."

At least two vendors that VWN spoke to over Wickr claimed to be pharmacists, insisting that they acquired the vaccine through the government and had already sold it to multiple customers. One claimed to have a stockpile of some 560 doses.

When asked for proof of their qualifications and photographic evidence of the product, both refused. Later, one of them sent a high-quality stock image of a vial labelled "Coronavirus Vaccine". [...]

### 3 Locsin says reported COVID-19 vaccine in Binondo could be fake, just 'dextrose'

Publication date	2020-12-21
Create date	2020-12-23
Score	16.22
Report id	855225
Category	Vaccine
Quality	Falsified
Source	Unknown
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: Locsin says reported COVID-19 vaccine in Binondo could be fake, just 'dextrose' GMA News Online

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 5: Places for report 855225

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
South-Eastern Asia	Philippines	Binondo	14.6	120.96667
South-Eastern Asia	Philippines	Manila	14.6042	120.9822

Table 6: Drugs for report 855225

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
			J07

Table 7: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
868112	Lorenzana admits Sinopharm vaccines used by Duterte's security detail were smuggled	<a href="#">Link</a>
867096	No papers, no orders: Agencies left in the dark over Sinopharm vaccination mess	<a href="#">Link</a>
866681	Drilon says administration of unauthorized COVID-19 vaccine illegal, punishable by law	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 7: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
865151	Recipients of unregistered COVID-19 vaccine should consult doctor, says FDA chief	<a href="#">Link</a>
866978	PNP, FDA map plans to run after fake, unlicensed COVID-19 vaccines	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: Unauthorized entry of supposed COVID-19 vaccines to the country may create "loopholes" that could enable fake drugs to reach the market, Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. said Monday. "There is a threat if we do this without government-to-government then what will happen is you create loopholes in which fake drugs can come in," he said in an interview on CNN Philippines. Locsin said he was told that fake drugs, though not fatal, were found to contain "dextrose."

"But the problem is this: If you take them, dextrose, you just got healthy... but it doesn't protect you from COVID."

Locsin gave the warning amid reports that a China-made vaccine on COVID-19 is already available in Manila's Binondo district. [...]

## 4 Interpol notes fake Covid-19 vaccine bust in SA

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-28
<b>Create date</b>	2021-01-05
<b>Score</b>	15.99
<b>Report id</b>	865724
<b>Category</b>	Vaccine, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Unlicensed outlets
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Interpol notes fake Covid-19 vaccine bust in SA The Citizen

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 8: Places for report 865724

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Africa	South Africa	Germiston	-26.23481	28.17665

Table 9: Drugs for report 865724

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
			J07

Table 10: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
867157	Interpol warns of fake vaccines targeting the desperate in SA	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: International policing agency, Interpol, has taken note of a fake Covid-19 vaccine bust in South Africa. The South African Police Service's (SAPS's) Vishnu Naidoo confirmed the incident in November where three suspects were arrested following the seizure of counterfeit Covid-19 vaccines in Germiston. It is believed that several hundreds of ampules of unregistered vaccines were imported from China, with Interpol saying they were advertised as for sale on WeChat. When law-enforcement authorities searched the industrial park in Germiston, they also came across and confiscated a large quantity of fake N95 masks. [...] Additional informa-

tion reportID: 867157 (<https://www.sowetanlive.co.za/news/south-africa/2020-12-29-interpol-warns-of-fake-vaccines-targeting-the-desperate-in-sa/>): Gauteng police busted an operation selling fake vaccines and masks operating from two warehouses at Growthpoint Industrial Park at Bell Street, Meadowdale, Germiston, on November 19. [...] The suspects have been identified as a Zambian and a person from China. [...] The 400 ampoules of fake vaccines and masks were imported from Singapore to SA from a legal company through OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg.



## 5 Incidents of vaccine falsification are not new for India and the world: Nakul Pasricha

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-08
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-10
<b>Score</b>	15.12
<b>Report id</b>	836309
<b>Category</b>	Vaccine, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Unlicensed outlets
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Incidents of vaccine falsification are not new for India and the world: Nakul Pasricha  
Express Healthcare

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 11: Places for report 836309

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Asia	India	Republic of India	22	79
South-Eastern Asia	Philippines	Republic of the Philippines	13	122
		South America	-14.60485	-57.65625
Eastern Asia	China	People's Republic of China	35	105

Table 12: Drugs for report 836309

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
			J07
	Rabies vaccines	viral vaccines	J07BG

Table 13: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
863014	Budget 2021: Government must earmark a budget to stop counterfeiting of COVID-19 vaccines	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 13: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
846945	Beware, Fake Covid-19 Vaccines Ready To Hit The Market: Anti-Counterfeit Body	<a href="#">Link</a>
868482	Authentication, traceability measures can ensure the genuineness of vaccines: Nakul Pasricha	<a href="#">Link</a>
839325	Beware, Fake Covid-19 Vaccines Ready To Hit The Market: Anti-Counterfeit Body	<a href="#">Link</a>
855288	Budget 2021: Government must earmark a budget to stop counterfeiting of COVID-19 vaccines	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: India's immunisation supply chain has been breached before and besides counterfeit PPE kits, there are already reports of fake COVID-19 vaccines, warns Nakul Pasricha, President, Authentication Solution Providers' Association. In an interaction with Viveka Roychowdhury, he lists out how hospitals can secure their pharmacies and supply agencies with cutting edge authentication and traceability solutions and by training staff to spot the fakes [...] There are concerns related to product security, falsification, theft and counterfeiting of vaccines. Healthcare management of hospitals need to ensure a preventive mechanism by which they can identify any irregularities during vaccine pre procurement and post vaccination. [...] In October 2018, a Chinese vaccination firm was fined \$1.3 billion after it was found to have illegally produced the human rabies vaccines. In December 2018, a large university-affiliated hospital in the Philippines discovered that their legitimate supply chain was infiltrated with counterfeit rabies vaccines (Verorab). In May 2020, fake Israeli coronavirus vaccines were being sold in South America. In India also there have been incidents. Last year, a big racket was busted in Rajasthan involved in counterfeit Meningitis vaccines. Fraudulent people have already started their malpractices. Three months ago, in September 2020, Odisha's drug enforcement agency arrested a man on charges of trying to sell fake COVID-19 vaccines in the Bargarh district. The accused was found preparing vials with COVID-19 vaccine stickers on them. In this year, itself, various agencies had issued alerts raising the concerns of fake incidents. [...] One of the major supplies agency of a big state in India has continuously been accused of supplying sub-standard personal protection equipment (PPE) to state-run-hospitals. These PPE kits supplied by them allegedly bore two stamps-those of an Indian PSU and "Made in China". Even the viral transport vials, supplied by the agency came in different colours. [...]

## 6 Covid vaccine: Scammers are flogging fake coronavirus jabs on the dark web for £230

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-11
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-14
<b>Score</b>	12.94
<b>Report id</b>	841777
<b>Category</b>	Vaccine
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Website(s)
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Covid vaccine: Scammers are flogging fake coronavirus jabs on the dark web for £230  
Mirror.co.uk

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 14: Places for report 841777

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Europe	United Kingdom	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	54.75844	-2.69531

Table 15: Drugs for report 841777

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
			J07

Table 16: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
876032	Be warned: COVID-19 vaccine scams are now appearing online, over text, and by email	<a href="#">Link</a>
858369	Authorities sound alarm on counterfeit vaccines	<a href="#">Link</a>
845322	Fake Covid-19 vaccines, remedies flooding dark web: Report	<a href="#">Link</a>
845603	Fake Covid-19 vaccines, remedies-related scams increase exponentially on Darknet: Checkpoint report	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 16: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
845626	Counterfeit Covid-19 vaccines are being offered on the Dark Web	<a href="#">Link</a>
848453	Fake COVID-19 vaccines, remedies flooding dark web: Report	<a href="#">Link</a>
846151	Fake COVID-19 vaccines surge on dark web: Research	<a href="#">Link</a>
854345	Fake Covid-19 vaccines, remedies flooding dark web: Report	<a href="#">Link</a>
852554	Shady COVID-19 'vaccines' for sale on the dark web, \$300 - Business Insider	<a href="#">Link</a>
889935	Dark net vendors tout likely fake COVID-19 vaccines as prices soar – researchers	<a href="#">Link</a>
854133	Fake COVID-19 vaccines surge on dark web: Research	<a href="#">Link</a>
875389	Fake Covid-19 Vaccines, Remedies Flooding Dark Web: Report	<a href="#">Link</a>
846742	Fake coronavirus vaccines flood darknet, sell for \$250	<a href="#">Link</a>
852411	Fake COVID-19 Vaccines are Already Being Sold Online	<a href="#">Link</a>
845254	Fake covid-19 vaccines proliferating on dark web, says new research	<a href="#">Link</a>
848839	Covid vaccine: Scammers are flogging fake coronavirus jabs on the dark web for £230	<a href="#">Link</a>
847822	Dark web becomes hotspot for fake COVID-19 vaccine: Report	<a href="#">Link</a>
852968	FDA Vaccine Approval Created a Spike in Black Market Listings	<a href="#">Link</a>
848110	Beware of fake vaccines on the darknet	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: [...] Now, experts have warned that scammers are preying on Brits desperate for the vaccine by flogging fake jabs on the dark web.

Researchers from Check Point discovered several Covid vaccine scams adverts, offering the 'opportunity' to purchase Pfizer's vaccine on the dark web.

The adverts feature headlines such as 'available corona virus vaccine \$250', "Say bye bye to COVID19=CHLOROQUINE PHOSPHATE", or "Buy fast. CORONA-VIRUS VACCINE IS OUT NOW".

They insist on payments being made in Bitcoin, which Check Point believes is a way to reduce the risk of sellers being traced. [...] The vendor responded with an asking price of 0.01 BTC (around £135), and claimed that 14 doses were needed for remediation. [...] "One of those ways is via the dark net. We are already seeing a number of vendors advertising the opportunity to buy the coronavirus vaccine on the dark net. [...]"

## **Annex**

### **7.2 COVID-19 diagnostics**

# Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe

January 18, 2021



This is a summary of the information available in the Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe for the search terms selected between the dates selected. For more information on the terminology used, caveats and the work of the medicine quality group please see the information at: <https://www.iddo.org/medicine-quality>

Non-Curated reports are those that have been automatically flagged as relevant by the system but have not been manually curated by the curators.

We would be grateful for any feedback on this summary and for the details of any reports that we may have missed.

## Filters applied for this report

**Search** ("thermometer")OR (("coronavirus kit" OR "RDT" OR "covid test" OR "lateral flow assay" OR "test kit" OR "LFA" OR "COVID kit" OR "Medical device for screening/diagnosis/monitoring" OR "rapid diagnostic test" OR "coronavirus test" OR "antigen test" OR "COVID-19 test" OR "test cassette" OR "In-vitro-diagnostic" OR "cassette test" OR "RT-PCR" OR "IVD" OR "testing kit" OR "qPCR" OR "antibody test" OR "COVID-19 kit" OR "PCR" OR "polymerase chain reaction" OR "ELISA") AND ("CV19" OR "新冠病毒" OR "武汉新型冠状病毒" OR "非典" OR "SARS" OR "CoV-2" OR "vi rút corona" OR "武汉肺炎" OR "COVID-19" OR "COVID" OR "新冠疫情" OR "新型冠状病毒肺炎" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "CV" OR "Coronavirus" OR "CV-19" OR "SRAS" OR "新型冠状病毒" OR "新冠"))

<b>Start date</b>	2020-12-01
<b>End date</b>	2020-12-31
<b>Language</b>	en
<b>Report type</b>	incident

**Curation status**

validated

**Number of Reports**

2

# 1 Fake coronavirus test kits seized at San Diego airport

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-11
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-14
<b>Score</b>	57.17
<b>Report id</b>	842418
<b>Category</b>	Medical device for screening/diagnosis/monitoring
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Airport
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Fake coronavirus test kits seized at San Diego airport KTLA

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 1: Places for report 842418

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	San Diego	32.71533	-117.15726

Notes: The shipment that arrived at the San Diego International Airport from Mexico was labeled as "plastic card." Instead, the the two parcels held 251 illicit COVID-19 testing kits, authorities said this week.

The Dec. 1 seizure at the Port of San Diego is part of a larger trend seen at border crossings and commercial ports, as the black market rises to profit off the demand for testing.

Shipments of tests that are fake, mislabeled or not approved by the Food and Drug Administration have been seen since the early days of the pandemic, with port seizures reported in Rochester, N.Y., Chicago, Indianapolis and elsewhere.

At the Los Angeles Port of Entry in March, a parcel at the international airport's mail facility was labeled "Purified Water Vials," according to Customs and Border Protection. After further inspection, officers found vials filled with a white liquid and labeled "Corona Virus 2019nconv (COVID-19)" and "Virus1 Test Kit," CBP said. The shipment had come from the United Kingdom.



## 2 Europol: Doping raids net 73 million in drugs, 667 arrests

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-10
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-11
<b>Score</b>	12.47
<b>Report id</b>	839814
<b>Category</b>	Medical device for screening/diagnosis/monitoring, Analgesic, Anxiolytic, Antiviral others, Medicine for allergy, Hormone replacement, Medical devices for disease prevention, Chemical laboratory reagents, Other, Antiseptic, Erectile dysfunction medicine, Hypnotic, Anti-oestrogen
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard or Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Clandestine laboratory
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Europol: Doping raids net 73 million in drugs, 667 arrests The Brussels Times

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 2: Places for report 839814

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
		Europe	48.69096	9.14062

Table 3: Drugs for report 839814

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
		anxiolytics	N05B
pseudoephedrine	Sympathomimetics	nasal decongestants for systemic use	R01BA02
	Antivirals	chemotherapeutics for topical use	D06BB
	Antivirals	antiinfectives	S01AD

Table 4: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
840194	European Law Enforcement Agencies Seize \$88.5Mln Worth of Counterfeit Drugs - Europol	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 4: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
849216	EU Authorities Crack Down on Illegal Meds, Arrest Hundreds	<a href="#">Link</a>
840797	Europol net 73 million and arrest 667 in crackdown on illegal medicine	<a href="#">Link</a>
840087	EU Authorities Crack Down on Illegal Meds, Arrest Hundreds	<a href="#">Link</a>
848037	Europol net 73 million and arrest 667 in crackdown on illegal medicine	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: The operation took place between March and September this year, led by police in Finland, France, Greece and Italy and involving 19 EU member states including Belgium, and eight third party countries. It was coordinated by Europol, the European Union’s law enforcement agency.

In the end, the operation had broken up 25 criminal gangs, arrested 667 people and seized a wide range of pharmaceutical products, including large amounts of anti-cancer drugs, erectile dysfunction medicines, pseudoephedrine, various doping substances such as hormone and metabolic regulators, painkillers, anti-oestrogens, antivirals, hypnotics, antihistamines and anxiolytics.

Given the period involved, some of the products were Covid-related. Those include 33 million medical devices like face masks, tests, diagnosis kits; eight tonnes of raw materials, chemicals and antivirals and 70,000 litres of sanitisers. [...]

## **Annex**

### **7.3 Personal Protective Equipment**

# Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe

January 18, 2021



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We would be grateful for any feedback on this summary and for the details of any reports that we may have missed.

## Filters applied for this report

**Search** ("Personal protective equipment" OR "PPE" OR "protective glasses" OR "apron" OR "n95" OR "gowns" OR "facemask" OR "Medical devices for disease prevention" OR "visor" OR "gloves" OR "goggles" OR "respirator" OR "KN95" OR "mask") OR ((Medical devices for disease prevention) AND ("CV19" OR "新冠病毒" OR "武汉新型冠状病毒" OR "非典" OR "SARS" OR "CoV-2" OR "vi rút corona" OR "武汉肺炎" OR "COVID-19" OR "COVID" OR "新冠疫情" OR "新型冠状病毒肺炎" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "CV" OR "Coronavirus" OR "CV-19" OR "SRAS" OR "新型冠状病毒" OR "新冠"))

<b>Start date</b>	2020-12-01
<b>End date</b>	2020-12-31
<b>Language</b>	en
<b>Report type</b>	incident
<b>Curation status</b>	validated



# 1 Health Canada warns against unlicensed PPE company

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-23
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-24
<b>Score</b>	40.15
<b>Report id</b>	859256
<b>Category</b>	Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Diverted/Unregistered
<b>Source</b>	Distributor/Wholesaler
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Health Canada warns against unlicensed PPE company National Observer

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 1: Places for report 859256

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	Canada	Canada	60.10867	-113.64258

Notes: Health Canada is urging Canadians to immediately get rid of products from an Ontario-based company selling unauthorized personal protective equipment (PPE) and medical devices online.

The company Maskopia, formerly known as Medkem Canada Inc., has been selling masks, gloves, gowns and other PPE without a medical devices establishment licence (MDEL) from Health Canada. The agency requires anyone who sells or imports medical devices to obtain this licence.

PPE sold by Maskopia "may pose serious health risks," wrote Health Canada in a release Tuesday. "They may not provide the level of protection advertised due to unknown quality and safety."

Health Canada said Maskopia has falsely advertised and sold non-medical masks as medical masks. While the company didn't respond to Canada's National Observer's request for comment, on its Facebook page, it describes itself as a "manufacturer of disposable medical grade ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) surgical masks Level 1-3 Health Canada approved" — which is completely false, according to Health Canada. [...]

## 2 Incidents of vaccine falsification are not new for India and the world: Nakul Pasricha

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-08
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-10
<b>Score</b>	33.10
<b>Report id</b>	836309
<b>Category</b>	Vaccine, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Unlicensed outlets
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Incidents of vaccine falsification are not new for India and the world: Nakul Pasricha  
Express Healthcare

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 2: Places for report 836309

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Asia	India	Republic of India	22	79
South-Eastern Asia	Philippines	Republic of the Philippines	13	122
		South America	-14.60485	-57.65625
Eastern Asia	China	People's Republic of China	35	105

Table 3: Drugs for report 836309

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
			J07
	Rabies vaccines	viral vaccines	J07BG

Table 4: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
863014	Budget 2021: Government must earmark a budget to stop counterfeiting of COVID-19 vaccines	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 4: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
846945	Beware, Fake Covid-19 Vaccines Ready To Hit The Market: Anti-Counterfeit Body	<a href="#">Link</a>
868482	Authentication, traceability measures can ensure the genuineness of vaccines: Nakul Pasricha	<a href="#">Link</a>
839325	Beware, Fake Covid-19 Vaccines Ready To Hit The Market: Anti-Counterfeit Body	<a href="#">Link</a>
855288	Budget 2021: Government must earmark a budget to stop counterfeiting of COVID-19 vaccines	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: India’s immunisation supply chain has been breached before and besides counterfeit PPE kits, there are already reports of fake COVID-19 vaccines, warns Nakul Pasricha, President, Authentication Solution Providers’ Association. In an interaction with Viveka Roychowdhury, he lists out how hospitals can secure their pharmacies and supply agencies with cutting edge authentication and traceability solutions and by training staff to spot the fakes [...] There are concerns related to product security, falsification, theft and counterfeiting of vaccines. Healthcare management of hospitals need to ensure a preventive mechanism by which they can identify any irregularities during vaccine pre procurement and post vaccination. [...] In October 2018, a Chinese vaccination firm was fined \$1.3 billion after it was found to have illegally produced the human rabies vaccines. In December 2018, a large university-affiliated hospital in the Philippines discovered that their legitimate supply chain was infiltrated with counterfeit rabies vaccines (Verorab). In May 2020, fake Israeli coronavirus vaccines were being sold in South America. In India also there have been incidents. Last year, a big racket was busted in Rajasthan involved in counterfeit Meningitis vaccines. Fraudulent people have already started their malpractices. Three months ago, in September 2020, Odisha’s drug enforcement agency arrested a man on charges of trying to sell fake COVID-19 vaccines in the Bargarh district. The accused was found preparing vials with COVID-19 vaccine stickers on them. In this year, itself, various agencies had issued alerts raising the concerns of fake incidents. [...] One of the major supplies agency of a big state in India has continuously been accused of supplying sub-standard personal protection equipment (PPE) to state-run-hospitals. These PPE kits supplied by them allegedly bore two stamps-those of an Indian PSU and ”Made in China”. Even the viral transport vials, supplied by the agency came in different colours. [...]



### 3 Interpol notes fake Covid-19 vaccine bust in SA

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-28
<b>Create date</b>	2021-01-05
<b>Score</b>	32.37
<b>Report id</b>	865724
<b>Category</b>	Vaccine, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Unlicensed outlets
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Interpol notes fake Covid-19 vaccine bust in SA The Citizen

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 5: Places for report 865724

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Africa	South Africa	Germiston	-26.23481	28.17665

Table 6: Drugs for report 865724

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
			J07

Table 7: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
867157	Interpol warns of fake vaccines targeting the desperate in SA	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: International policing agency, Interpol, has taken note of a fake Covid-19 vaccine bust in South Africa. The South African Police Service's (SAPS's) Vishnu Naidoo confirmed the incident in November where three suspects were arrested following the seizure of counterfeit Covid-19 vaccines in Germiston. It is believed that several hundreds of ampules of unregistered vaccines were imported from China, with Interpol saying they were advertised as for sale on WeChat. When law-enforcement authorities searched the industrial park in Germiston, they also came across and confiscated a large quantity of fake N95 masks. [...] Additional informa-

tion reportID: 867157 (<https://www.sowetanlive.co.za/news/south-africa/2020-12-29-interpol-warns-of-fake-vaccines-targeting-the-desperate-in-sa/>): Gauteng police busted an operation selling fake vaccines and masks operating from two warehouses at Growthpoint Industrial Park at Bell Street, Meadowdale, Germiston, on November 19. [...] The suspects have been identified as a Zambian and a person from China. [...] The 400 ampoules of fake vaccines and masks were imported from Singapore to SA from a legal company through OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg.

## 4 Nursing union threatens to sue health department over 'unsafe' KN95 masks

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-15
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-15
<b>Score</b>	29.45
<b>Report id</b>	847945
<b>Category</b>	Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Manufacturer
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Nursing union threatens to sue health department over 'unsafe' KN95 masks Times-LIVE

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 8: Places for report 847945

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Africa	South Africa	Cape Town	-33.92584	18.42322

Table 9: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
853763	Swoop on fake masks as new Covid-19 variant hits SA	<a href="#">Link</a>
839725	Covid-19 masks being used by SA health workers fail safety tests	<a href="#">Link</a>
849034	Fake N95 and KN95 masks on frontlines and in SA stores. Here's how to tell if yours is real	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: The Democratic Nursing Organisation of SA (Denosa) has called for the immediate withdrawal of at least 12 different brands of KN95 face masks. [...] Sunday Times Daily reported the KN95 masks – mainly made in China – flooded into SA amid a pandemic-related worldwide shortage of the highly regulated N95 masks.

None of the masks tested at the University of Cape Town offered the protection provided by the "gold standard" N95 mask, according to the results of a study published in the SA Medical Journal. [...]

## 5 Taiwanese businessman charged for selling counterfeit masks from China

Publication date	2020-12-15
Create date	2020-12-15
Score	29.35
Report id	847198
Category	Medical devices for disease prevention
Quality	Falsified
Source	Unlicensed outlets
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: Taiwanese businessman charged for selling counterfeit masks from China Taiwan News

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 10: Places for report 847198

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Eastern Asia	Taiwan	Taipei	25.04776	121.53185

Notes: The owner of Carry Mask was indicted Tuesday (Dec. 15) for making NT\$34 million (US\$1.21 million) by passing off face masks from China as made in Taiwan.

Lin Ming-chin's ( ) company was part of the "National Face Mask Team" of private-sector manufacturers requisitioned by the government earlier this year to produce masks and mask-making machines in the face of the worsening coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

In addition to selling 3.95 million masks from China unsuitable for medical use, Lin is still under investigation for distributing unauthorized children's masks, CNA reported.

The scam came to light in September when a pharmacist in New Taipei City looked inside a box of masks sent in by mail and found a user's manual in the simplified Chinese characters used in China but not in Taiwan. She alerted the health authorities, which began an investigation through the Shilin Prosecutors Office.

On June 1, Lin had concluded an agreement with the government to produce 190,000 masks a day, but through acquaintances in China, he bought 4.6 million masks from a company in Anhui and had them repackaged as made in Taiwan.

## 6 Company agrees to surrender a half-million counterfeit N95 masks to the state to be destroyed

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-22
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-23
<b>Score</b>	26.76
<b>Report id</b>	858111
<b>Category</b>	Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Distributor/Wholesaler
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Company agrees to surrender a half-million counterfeit N95 masks to the state to be destroyed Minneapolis Star Tribune

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 11: Places for report 858111

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	Minnesota	46.25024	-94.25055

Table 12: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
858114	Minnesota, 3M working together to stop the spread of fake mask	<a href="#">Link</a>
864799	Company agrees to surrender a half-million counterfeit N95 masks to the state to be destroyed	<a href="#">Link</a>
858744	State, 3M partner to remove 500K counterfeit N95 respirators from circulation	<a href="#">Link</a>
858745	Minnesota, 3M working to stop spread of fake masks	<a href="#">Link</a>
858746	Minnesota, 3M remove 500K fake N95 respirators from circulation	<a href="#">Link</a>
878076	Half a million counterfeit 3M respirators will be destroyed	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: A company that tried to sell 500,000 N95 respirators to the state of Minnesota at prices

far above retail has been told instead to surrender the masks because they are counterfeit.

Officials with the state Department of Administration, which stockpiles backup supplies for health care workers, announced Tuesday that Supply Link, Inc., of Delaware, Ohio, is complying with a cease-and-desist letter to immediately turn in the counterfeit masks.

Maplewood-based 3M Co., a leading manufacturer of N95s, has been working closely with state officials to evaluate the counterfeit respirators. Once received, they'll be given to 3M for destruction.

The packaging claims that the masks are 3M Model 1860 respirators. [...] Matthew Kaspar, president of Supply Link, confirmed via e-mail that the masks it obtained for the state from another supplier turned out to be counterfeit.

"Supply Link is a victim of what appears to be an elaborate and professional counterfeit operation," Kaspar's e-mail said. "Due diligence prior to shipment of the masks to Minnesota was extensive and included the review and cooperation of the State." [...]

## 7 Black market meds: how nuclear analysis can fight trafficking of counterfeit medicines

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-08
<b>Create date</b>	2021-01-13
<b>Score</b>	21.01
<b>Report id</b>	836690
<b>Category</b>	Anti-malarial, Erectile dysfunction medicine, Antiviral others, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Unlicensed outlets
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Black market meds: how nuclear analysis can fight trafficking of counterfeit medicines  
The Conversation UK

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 13: Places for report 836690

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Western Africa	Senegal	Senegal	14.5	-14.25
Central Africa	Cameroon	Republic of Cameroon	6	12.5
		Earth	0	0

Table 14: Drugs for report 836690

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
sildenafil	Drugs used in erectile dysfunction	urologicals	G04BE03
chloroquine	Aminoquinolines	antimalarials	P01BA01

Notes: The trafficking of counterfeit and illegal medicines is a growing global challenge, with many criminal organisations involved and huge amounts of cash changing hands. In our recent research, we propose a new method for testing and tracing illegal counterfeit medicines. The solution is nuclear. [...] The situation is not expected to improve. In fact, Interpol has already seen a rise in fake medical products related to the outbreak of the COVID-19 disease. Opera-

tion Pangea XIII seized US\$14m (£10.4m) worth of counterfeit face masks, sub-standard hand sanitisers and unauthorised antiviral pharmaceutical products in March 2020. They arrested 121 people, and more than 2,500 websites were taken offline. [...] In this regard, we recently proposed a new approach that proved very promising. We got the idea from a previous study carried out by one of the authors of this article. It involves a unique combination of nuclear analytical techniques, specifically ion beam analysis (IBA) and instrumental neutron activation analysis (INAA). The latter uses neutron and proton beams respectively, to analyse every ingredient in a particular illicit product of interest. It can then give us an extensive overview of their composition, down to atomic levels. [...] Today, the biggest challenge in stopping the trafficking of counterfeit medicines is implementing global methods that fight the latest threats as quickly as possible. Criminal organisations are dynamic and laboratories need to keep up. Fake chloroquine, an antimalarial medicine falsely believed to cure COVID-19, is already being sold in Cameroon and in Senegal. Additional information "How COVID-19 is fuelling the trafficking of fake chloroquine in Senegal" (<https://enactafrica.org/enact-observer/how-covid-19-is-fuelling-the-trafficking-of-fake-chloroquine-in-senegal>) 06 Jul 2020: Criminal networks have cashed in on the population's eagerness to acquire the drug. They've developed a parallel economy by trafficking and selling a substandard version of chloroquine. Despite the requisition and the shutdown of air and land borders, these criminal networks have found ways to continue smuggling and feeding the black market with the drug.

Criminal networks benefit from the trade exchange between Senegal and Guinea because trucks carrying goods are exempt from travel restrictions. Counterfeit chloroquine is smuggled into Senegal by truck drivers carrying fruit from Guinea. According to a customs official who spoke to ENACT on condition of anonymity, 'this axis is chosen by criminals because of the absence of a scanner at the police border, unlike the border with Mali, where all trucks carrying goods are systematically checked by a scanner'.



## 8 Busted: 20 factories selling counterfeit masks, sanitisers in UAE

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-07
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-08
<b>Score</b>	19.91
<b>Report id</b>	834891
<b>Category</b>	Medical devices for disease prevention, Antiseptic
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Clandestine laboratory
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Busted: 20 factories selling counterfeit masks, sanitisers in UAE Gulf News

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 15: Places for report 834891

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Western Asia	United Arab Emirates	Dubai	25.0657	55.17128

Table 16: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
839490	Authorities' swift action against counterfeit products save public lives	<a href="#">Link</a>
860011	Busted: 20 factories selling counterfeit masks, sanitisers in UAE	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: [...] "Nearly 20 factories selling substandard face masks, disinfectants and hand sanitisers have been busted in the UAE since the outbreak of the virus," said Hatem Ghani, director at the intellectual property department at The Legal Group Advocates and Legal Consultants, which organised the workshop and which was attended by customs and police officials as well as representatives of top international brands. Hatem said the counterfeiters were using the pandemic to exploit huge spikes in demand for pharmaceutical products such as masks and sanitisers. "We carried out raids in Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Ajman and Umm Al Quwain with the help of local authorities and seized tens of thousands of these counterfeit

products. During a raid conducted in Dubai, in coordination with Dubai Economic Department (DED), we confiscated 2,000 boxes of fake N95 masks. Each box had 120 respirators. In Ras Al Khaimah, we found a factory that manufactured fake cleaning products and clandestinely operated out of a farm. At another manufacturing plant, we seized counterfeit sanitisers,” recalled Hatem. ”A hand sanitiser must have 70 per cent of isopropyl alcohol to be effective, but some of these solutions barely have 20 per cent,” he added. [...]

## 9 ICE, CBP seize more than 100000 counterfeit surgical masks intended for hospital workers

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-09
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-11
<b>Score</b>	19.32
<b>Report id</b>	838504
<b>Category</b>	Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Unspecified outlet
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: ICE, CBP seize more than 100000 counterfeit surgical masks intended for hospital workers U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Newsroom

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 17: Places for report 838504

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	El Paso	31.75872	-106.48693
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Table 18: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
871433	CBP seizes 100,000 fake surgical masks near US-Mexico border	<a href="#">Link</a>
876305	Feds Seize \$600,000 in Fake N95 Masks	<a href="#">Link</a>
842779	100K counterfeit N95 masks seized in Texas	<a href="#">Link</a>
839492	Federal agents seize more than 100,000 counterfeit N95 masks in Texas	<a href="#">Link</a>
840551	Border agents, ICE seize more than 100,000 counterfeit N95 masks in Texas warehouse	<a href="#">Link</a>
846967	Homeland Security officials in El Paso warn of fraudulent virus vaccines & treatments	<a href="#">Link</a>
838788	\$600,000 of counterfeit PPE seized at Texas warehouse - ABC7 San Francisco	<a href="#">Link</a>
866183	Customs officials seize more than 100000 fake face masks bound for El Paso	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 18: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
838821	\$600000 of counterfeit PPE seized at Texas warehouse	<a href="#">Link</a>
839621	\$600,000 of counterfeit PPE seized at Texas warehouse	<a href="#">Link</a>
840654	100,000 fake N-95 masks seized in El Paso warehouse raid	<a href="#">Link</a>
840658	Authorities seize \$600K worth of counterfeit N95 masks from Texas warehouse   TheHill	<a href="#">Link</a>
838879	ICE, CBP seize more than \$600K of counterfeit PPE in Texas	<a href="#">Link</a>
841215	\$600,000 of counterfeit PPE seized at Texas warehouse - Honolulu, Hawaii news, sports & weather	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: More than 100,000 counterfeit 3M N95 surgical masks destined to be used by hospital workers were seized Dec. 7 by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

On Dec. 3, CBP officers at the Ysleta Cargo Facility initially intercepted the shipment of 100,080 3M N95 surgical masks with an MSRP of \$600,480. The masks were in-transit at an El Paso bonded warehouse destined to a hospital on the East Coast.

ICE HSI special agents determined the masks were counterfeit after working with the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center and 3M Company. [...]

## 10 Europol: Doping raids net 73 million in drugs, 667 arrests

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-10
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-11
<b>Score</b>	18.83
<b>Report id</b>	839814
<b>Category</b>	Medical device for screening/diagnosis/monitoring, Analgesic, Anxiolytic, Antiviral others, Medicine for allergy, Hormone replacement, Medical devices for disease prevention, Chemical laboratory reagents, Other, Antiseptic, Erectile dysfunction medicine, Hypnotic, Anti-oestrogen
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard or Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Clandestine laboratory
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Europol: Doping raids net 73 million in drugs, 667 arrests The Brussels Times

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 19: Places for report 839814

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
		Europe	48.69096	9.14062

Table 20: Drugs for report 839814

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
		anxiolytics	N05B
pseudoephedrine	Sympathomimetics	nasal decongestants for systemic use	R01BA02
	Antivirals	chemotherapeutics for topical use	D06BB
	Antivirals	antiinfectives	S01AD

Table 21: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
840194	European Law Enforcement Agencies Seize \$88.5Mln Worth of Counterfeit Drugs - Europol	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 21: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
849216	EU Authorities Crack Down on Illegal Meds, Arrest Hundreds	<a href="#">Link</a>
840797	Europol net 73 million and arrest 667 in crackdown on illegal medicine	<a href="#">Link</a>
840087	EU Authorities Crack Down on Illegal Meds, Arrest Hundreds	<a href="#">Link</a>
848037	Europol net 73 million and arrest 667 in crackdown on illegal medicine	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: The operation took place between March and September this year, led by police in Finland, France, Greece and Italy and involving 19 EU member states including Belgium, and eight third party countries. It was coordinated by Europol, the European Union's law enforcement agency.

In the end, the operation had broken up 25 criminal gangs, arrested 667 people and seized a wide range of pharmaceutical products, including large amounts of anti-cancer drugs, erectile dysfunction medicines, pseudoephedrine, various doping substances such as hormone and metabolic regulators, painkillers, anti-oestrogens, antivirals, hypnotics, antihistamines and anxiolytics.

Given the period involved, some of the products were Covid-related. Those include 33 million medical devices like face masks, tests, diagnosis kits; eight tonnes of raw materials, chemicals and antivirals and 70,000 litres of sanitisers. [...]

## 11 Over 6000 counterfeit masks destined for Jamaica seized in US

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-13
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-14
<b>Score</b>	18.47
<b>Report id</b>	845172
<b>Category</b>	Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Other
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Over 6000 counterfeit masks destined for Jamaica seized in US Loop News Jamaica

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 22: Places for report 845172

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	Cincinnati	39.12711	-84.51439

Table 23: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
878152	6,000 masks were headed for Jamaica. Here's why Customs says they were seized	<a href="#">Link</a>
867444	Thousands of counterfeit 3M face masks seized in Cincinnati	<a href="#">Link</a>
877942	Fake '3M Safe Guard' masks confiscated by US Customs at Erlanger facility, headed to Jamaica	<a href="#">Link</a>
867540	Cincinnati customs agents seize more than 6,000 counterfeit 3M masks	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: More than 6,000 counterfeit masks which were destined for Kingston, Jamaica from Hong Kong, were intercepted by United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers in Cincinnati, US.

It was reported by CBP that on December 6, an incoming shipment of 38 boxes containing 6,080 masks labelled as 3M Disposable Respirators Model 8210 was inspected by its officers.

Discrepancies were discovered as the shipment did not match the requirements for the "3M Safe Guard product authentication process", CBP stated, according to a Fox19 News report. Additionally, CBP said the boxes were reportedly labelled as "Made in US even though they were imported through a freight forwarder in Hong Kong". Following the inspections, it was determined by officers that the masks were counterfeit. [...]



## 12 Thousands of counterfeit surgical masks seized in Phoenix, some at Sky Harbor Airport

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-29
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-31
<b>Score</b>	17.56
<b>Report id</b>	867638
<b>Category</b>	Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Airport
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Thousands of counterfeit surgical masks seized in Phoenix, some at Sky Harbor Airport  
AZFamily

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 24: Places for report 867638

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	Phoenix	33.44838	-112.07404

Table 25: Drugs for report 867638

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
silver	Silver compounds	antiseptics and disinfectants	D08AL30

Table 26: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
868144	More than 200,000 counterfeit surgical masks seized by customs officers	<a href="#">Link</a>
870737	Thousands of counterfeit surgical masks seized in Phoenix	<a href="#">Link</a>
868055	More than 200K counterfeit surgical masks seized by customs officers in Arizona	<a href="#">Link</a>
870901	Thousands Of Counterfeit Masks Seized In Phoenix: CBP	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 26: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
871417	Feds seize 200,000 counterfeit surgical masks bound for Az hospitals	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: More than 200,000 counterfeit surgical masks were seized in Phoenix over the last 45 days, some of them at Sky Harbor Airport. The masks were all intended for hospital workers and medical staff throughout the nation.

Homeland Security and Border Patrol agents made the seizures. "Homeland Security Investigations and our partner agencies are committed to identify and seize these potentially hazardous medical products before they could harm our frontline workers," said Scott Brown, Special Agent in Charge for Homeland Security Investigations in Phoenix.

Back in October, federal officers assigned to Sky Harbor inspected an inbound, imported shipment and found it contained 3M N95 masks. One sample mask was removed from the shipment, and it was determined to be counterfeit.

More counterfeit masks were found at the warehouse of a small business linked to the investigation. They ended up being the same type of masks seized at the airport. [...]

## 13 Police Raid Illegal Factory Making Substandard Medical Gloves

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-26
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-27
<b>Score</b>	17.04
<b>Report id</b>	863689
<b>Category</b>	Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Clandestine laboratory
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Police Raid Illegal Factory Making Substandard Medical Gloves Chiang Rai Times

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 27: Places for report 863689

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
South-Eastern Asia	Thailand	Bangkok	13.75398	100.50144

Notes: Crime Suppression Division police have seize over 7 million substandard medical gloves during a raid on an illegal factory in central Thailand on Saturday. A Chinese man, claiming to be the owner, and 11 Cambodian migrant workers, all without entry documents, are detained. A combined task force of Crime Suppression Division police, local police and officials from the Food and Drug Administration and the Thai Industrial Standards Institute raided a building on Saturday.

The raid came after an investigation found the factory had allegedly produced medical gloves without proper authority or inspection. [...]

## 14 Fake coronavirus test kits seized at San Diego airport

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-11
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-14
<b>Score</b>	16.16
<b>Report id</b>	842418
<b>Category</b>	Medical device for screening/diagnosis/monitoring
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Airport
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Fake coronavirus test kits seized at San Diego airport KTLA

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 28: Places for report 842418

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	San Diego	32.71533	-117.15726

Notes: The shipment that arrived at the San Diego International Airport from Mexico was labeled as "plastic card." Instead, the the two parcels held 251 illicit COVID-19 testing kits, authorities said this week.

The Dec. 1 seizure at the Port of San Diego is part of a larger trend seen at border crossings and commercial ports, as the black market rises to profit off the demand for testing.

Shipments of tests that are fake, mislabeled or not approved by the Food and Drug Administration have been seen since the early days of the pandemic, with port seizures reported in Rochester, N.Y., Chicago, Indianapolis and elsewhere.

At the Los Angeles Port of Entry in March, a parcel at the international airport's mail facility was labeled "Purified Water Vials," according to Customs and Border Protection. After further inspection, officers found vials filled with a white liquid and labeled "Corona Virus 2019nconv (COVID-19)" and "Virus1 Test Kit," CBP said. The shipment had come from the United Kingdom.

## 15 For months, Quebec daycare workers were issued substandard masks

Publication date	2020-12-23
Create date	2020-12-24
Score	14.15
Report id	859961
Category	Medical devices for disease prevention
Quality	Substandard
Source	Unknown
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: For months, Quebec daycare workers were issued substandard masks Montreal Gazette

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 29: Places for report 859961

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	Canada	Québec	46.81228	-71.21454

Notes: Workers in provincial daycares have been using masks deemed inefficient by Quebec's workplace health and safety authority (CNESTT), and have been doing so for months.

Quebec's family ministry issued a notice to daycares on Tuesday ordering them to immediately stop using MC9501 masks, since they do not meet one of the criteria established by the Institut de recherche Robert-Sauvé en santé et en sécurité du travail (IRSST). The issue is the mask's filtration capability, which is less than 100 per cent. Workers were issued the masks between May and November. [...]

## 16 Drugs, sanitisers found substandard

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-15
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-15
<b>Score</b>	13.86
<b>Report id</b>	848258
<b>Category</b>	Cardiovascular medicine, Antiepileptic, Vitamin, Medicine for allergy, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Manufacturer
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Drugs, sanitisers found substandard The Tribune

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 30: Places for report 848258

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Asia	India	Nālāgarh	31.04168	76.72285
Southern Asia	India	Kangra	32.16667	76.25
Southern Asia	India	Baddi	30.95783	76.79136
Southern Asia	India	State of Himāchal Pradesh	31.91667	77.25

Table 31: Drugs for report 848258

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
telmisartan	Angiotensin II antagonists, plain	angiotensin ii antagonists, plain	C09CA07
pheniramine	Antihistamines for topical use	antipruritics, incl. antihistamines, anesthetics, etc.	D04AA16
pheniramine	Substituted alkylamines	antihistamines for systemic use	R06AB05
pregabalin	Other antiepileptics	antiepileptics	N03AX16

Table 32: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
866109	Five Pharma product samples fail quality test in HP	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: Hand sanitisers manufactured by two firms in Himachal were declared not of standard quality (NSQ) besides three other drugs in the monthly alert issued today by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO).

An ethyl alcohol isopropyl alcohol-based xerorub hand santiser manufactured at Sansarpur Terrace in Kangra district and isopropyl rubbing alcohol-based hand sanitiser manufactured at Baddi have been declared not of standard quality. Both were tested by the regional drug testing lab at Chandigarh.

As per the alert, the content of the requisite alcohol was less than the designated level and presence of impurities was detected besides the appropriate Ph level failing to be maintained.

”It is important to maintain the quality of sanitisers. Its samples are regularly drawn to check their quality as its use has increased in the Covid pandemic. Batches of drugs and sanitisers, which have been declared NSQ, would be withdrawn from the market and requisite intervention would be undertaken to ensure production of quality drugs,” informed State Drug Controller, Navneet Marwaha.

Out of the 14 drugs declared NSQ in various states, five pertain to Himachal. This includes three drugs manufactured in Nalagarh. They comprise pheniramine maleate, pregabalin and methylcobalamin capsules and telmisartan tablets manufactured at Khera village in Nalagarh.

## 17 10 Chinese nationals arrested for selling fake face masks, shields | Philippines Lifestyle News

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-07
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-08
<b>Score</b>	10.55
<b>Report id</b>	835632
<b>Category</b>	Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Unlicensed outlets
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: 10 Chinese nationals arrested for selling fake face masks, shields | Philippines Lifestyle News Philippines Lifestyle

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 33: Places for report 835632

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
South-Eastern Asia	Philippines	Manila	14.6042	120.9822
South-Eastern Asia	Philippines	Binondo	14.60108	120.97541

Notes: More than 10 Chinese were arrested in 3 separate malls in Binondo after they were caught selling fake brands of face masks and face shields.

After they were arrested in an entrapment operation conducted by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) on Monday, foreigners will face copyright infringement charges. The complaint stemmed from Heng De consultant and representative in the Philippines, James Wong.

"Million ang nalulugi sa amin dahil sa pamemeke galing China [We lose millions because of counterfeiting from China]," said Wong.

Wong said their original products embossed the gold logo, while the counterfeit was pure blue print. On the face shield, the Heng De logo can be seen on the glass handle. The complaint stemmed from Heng De consultant and representative in the Philippines, James Wong.

"Million ang nalulugi sa amin dahil sa pamemeke galing China [We lose millions because of counterfeiting from China]," said Wong.

Wong said their original products embossed the gold logo, while the counterfeit was pure blue print. On the face shield, the Heng De logo can be seen on the glass handle. The NBI advises



buying the original products.

”Tangkilikin natin ang original at wag bumili ng peke baka makaapekto sa paningin mo dahil sa quality,” said Jimmy de Leon, agent investigator of NBI. (Let’s buy the original and do not buy counterfeit it may affect your vision because of the quality.)

## 18 More potentially dangerous mouthwashes and hand sanitizers recalled

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-29
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-31
<b>Score</b>	7.21
<b>Report id</b>	867578
<b>Category</b>	Antiseptic
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Manufacturer
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: More potentially dangerous mouthwashes and hand sanitizers recalled CBS News

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 34: Places for report 867578

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	California	37.25022	-119.75126
Americas	United States	Minnesota	46.25024	-94.25055

Table 35: Drugs for report 867578

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
ethanol	Other antiseptics and disinfectants	antiseptics and disinfectants	D08AX08
ethanol	Antidotes	all other therapeutic products	V03AB16
ethanol	Nerve depressants	all other therapeutic products	V03AZ01
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives and antiseptics for local oral treatment	stomatological preparations	A01AB03
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives	irrigating solutions	B05CA02
chlorhexidine	Biguanides and amidines	antiseptics and disinfectants	D08AC02

Table 35: Drugs for report 867578(continued)

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
chlorhexidine	Medicated dressings with antiinfectives	medicated dressings	D09AA12
chlorhexidine	Antiseptics	throat preparations	R02AA05
chlorhexidine	Other antiinfectives	antiinfectives	S01AX09
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives	antiinfectives	S02AA09
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives	antiinfectives	S03AA04

Table 36: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
869552	More Dangerous Mouthwashes and Hand Sanitizers Recalled	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: Another company is recalling hand sanitizer because it may contain methanol, a possibly toxic substance also known as wood alcohol, lengthening the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's list of disinfections to avoid. Separately, an oral rinse is also being recalled because it may be contaminated with a bacteria particularly dangerous for those infected with COVID-19, the FDA said. [...] Manufactured in China, the recalled sanitizer was distributed nationwide to wholesale and retail customers by Innovative Marketing Consultants of Spring Park, Minnesota. The recalled products are packaged in a white opaque or clear plastic bottle with either a blue, clear or black cap and are labeled as IMC Wash Free Hand Sanitizer, Wash Free Hand Sanitizer and Thrifty White Pharmacy Hand Sanitizer.

After observing a spike in hand sanitizers that claimed to contain ethanol but tested positive for methanol, a substance used in fuel and antifreeze, the FDA has compiled a list of more than 220 products that consumers should steer clear of. [...] Separately, a recall of GUM Paroex Chlorhexidine Gluconate Oral Rinse for a possible bacterial contamination has been expanded after manufacturer Sunstar Americas learned of 29 infections. [...]

## **Annex**

### **7.4 Sanitisers and disinfectants**

# Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe

January 18, 2021



This is a summary of the information available in the Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe for the search terms selected between the dates selected. For more information on the terminology used, caveats and the work of the medicine quality group please see the information at: <https://www.iddo.org/medicine-quality>

Non-Curated reports are those that have been automatically flagged as relevant by the system but have not been manually curated by the curators.

We would be grateful for any feedback on this summary and for the details of any reports that we may have missed.

## Filters applied for this report

<b>Search</b>	"wipes" OR "disinfectant" OR "sanitizer" OR "sanitizing" OR "iodoform" OR "sanitiser"
<b>Start date</b>	2020-12-01
<b>End date</b>	2020-12-31
<b>Language</b>	en
<b>Report type</b>	incident
<b>Curation status</b>	validated
<b>Number of Reports</b>	7

# 1 More potentially dangerous mouthwashes and hand sanitizers recalled

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-29
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-31
<b>Score</b>	18.92
<b>Report id</b>	867578
<b>Category</b>	Antiseptic
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Manufacturer
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: More potentially dangerous mouthwashes and hand sanitizers recalled CBS News

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 1: Places for report 867578

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	California	37.25022	-119.75126
Americas	United States	Minnesota	46.25024	-94.25055

Table 2: Drugs for report 867578

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
ethanol	Other antiseptics and disinfectants	antiseptics and disinfectants	D08AX08
ethanol	Antidotes	all other therapeutic products	V03AB16
ethanol	Nerve depressants	all other therapeutic products	V03AZ01
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives and antiseptics for local oral treatment	stomatological preparations	A01AB03
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives	irrigating solutions	B05CA02
chlorhexidine	Biguanides and amidines	antiseptics and disinfectants	D08AC02

Table 2: Drugs for report 867578(continued)

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
chlorhexidine	Medicated dressings with antiinfectives	medicated dressings	D09AA12
chlorhexidine	Antiseptics	throat preparations	R02AA05
chlorhexidine	Other antiinfectives	antiinfectives	S01AX09
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives	antiinfectives	S02AA09
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives	antiinfectives	S03AA04

Table 3: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
869552	More Dangerous Mouthwashes and Hand Sanitizers Recalled	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: Another company is recalling hand sanitizer because it may contain methanol, a possibly toxic substance also known as wood alcohol, lengthening the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s list of disinfections to avoid. Separately, an oral rinse is also being recalled because it may be contaminated with a bacteria particularly dangerous for those infected with COVID-19, the FDA said. [...] Manufactured in China, the recalled sanitizer was distributed nationwide to wholesale and retail customers by Innovative Marketing Consultants of Spring Park, Minnesota. The recalled products are packaged in a white opaque or clear plastic bottle with either a blue, clear or black cap and are labeled as IMC Wash Free Hand Sanitizer, Wash Free Hand Sanitizer and Thrifty White Pharmacy Hand Sanitizer.

After observing a spike in hand sanitizers that claimed to contain ethanol but tested positive for methanol, a substance used in fuel and antifreeze, the FDA has compiled a list of more than 220 products that consumers should steer clear of. [...] Separately, a recall of GUM Paroex Chlorhexidine Gluconate Oral Rinse for a possible bacterial contamination has been expanded after manufacturer Sunstar Americas learned of 29 infections. [...]

## 2 Broncolin, S.A. de C.V. - 609329 - 12/21/2020 - 2020-12-29

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-29
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-31
<b>Score</b>	16.76
<b>Report id</b>	867207
<b>Category</b>	Antiseptic
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Manufacturer
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Finished Pharmaceuticals/Unapproved New Drug/Misbranded/Adulterated

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 4: Places for report 867207

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5
Americas	Mexico	Iztacalco	19.39528	-99.09778

Table 5: Drugs for report 867207

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
ethanol	Other antiseptics and disinfectants	antiseptics and disinfectants	D08AX08
ethanol	Antidotes	all other therapeutic products	V03AB16
ethanol	Nerve depressants	all other therapeutic products	V03AZ01

Notes: [...] HERBACIL Antiseptic Hand Sanitizer, labeled as manufactured at your facility, is labeled to contain 70% volume/volume (v/v) of the active ingredient alcohol (ethanol). However, FDA laboratory testing of a batch of this product detained at the border found that it contained an average of 4.7% ethanol and 66% methanol v/v. Moreover, two additional samples of HERBACIL Antiseptic Hand Sanitizer were tested from a different batch. The first sample contained an average of 1.3% ethanol and 73% methanol v/v and the second sample contained an average of 0.4 % ethanol and 75% methanol v/v. Therefore, this hand sanitizer drug product is adulterated under section 501(d)(2) of the FD&C Act in that the active ingredient, ethanol,



was substituted wholly or in part with methanol, a dangerous chemical when in contact with human skin or ingested. [...]

### 3 Busted: 20 factories selling counterfeit masks, sanitisers in UAE

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-07
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-08
<b>Score</b>	10.35
<b>Report id</b>	834891
<b>Category</b>	Medical devices for disease prevention, Antiseptic
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Clandestine laboratory
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Busted: 20 factories selling counterfeit masks, sanitisers in UAE Gulf News

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 6: Places for report 834891

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Western Asia	United Arab Emirates	Dubai	25.0657	55.17128

Table 7: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
839490	Authorities' swift action against counterfeit products save public lives	<a href="#">Link</a>
860011	Busted: 20 factories selling counterfeit masks, sanitisers in UAE	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: [...] "Nearly 20 factories selling substandard face masks, disinfectants and hand sanitisers have been busted in the UAE since the outbreak of the virus," said Hatem Ghani, director at the intellectual property department at The Legal Group Advocates and Legal Consultants, which organised the workshop and which was attended by customs and police officials as well as representatives of top international brands. Hatem said the counterfeiters were using the pandemic to exploit huge spikes in demand for pharmaceutical products such as masks and sanitisers. "We carried out raids in Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Ajman and Umm Al Quwain with the help of local authorities and seized tens of thousands of these counterfeit

products. During a raid conducted in Dubai, in coordination with Dubai Economic Department (DED), we confiscated 2,000 boxes of fake N95 masks. Each box had 120 respirators. In Ras Al Khaimah, we found a factory that manufactured fake cleaning products and clandestinely operated out of a farm. At another manufacturing plant, we seized counterfeit sanitisers,” recalled Hatem. ”A hand sanitiser must have 70 per cent of isopropyl alcohol to be effective, but some of these solutions barely have 20 per cent,” he added. [...]

## 4 Drugs, sanitisers found substandard

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-15
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-15
<b>Score</b>	6.98
<b>Report id</b>	848258
<b>Category</b>	Cardiovascular medicine, Antiepileptic, Vitamin, Medicine for allergy, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Manufacturer
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Drugs, sanitisers found substandard The Tribune

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 8: Places for report 848258

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Asia	India	Nālāgarh	31.04168	76.72285
Southern Asia	India	Kangra	32.16667	76.25
Southern Asia	India	Baddi	30.95783	76.79136
Southern Asia	India	State of Himāchal Pradesh	31.91667	77.25

Table 9: Drugs for report 848258

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
telmisartan	Angiotensin II antagonists, plain	angiotensin ii antagonists, plain	C09CA07
pheniramine	Antihistamines for topical use	antipruritics, incl. antihistamines, anesthetics, etc.	D04AA16
pheniramine	Substituted alkylamines	antihistamines for systemic use	R06AB05
pregabalin	Other antiepileptics	antiepileptics	N03AX16

Table 10: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
866109	Five Pharma product samples fail quality test in HP	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: Hand sanitisers manufactured by two firms in Himachal were declared not of standard quality (NSQ) besides three other drugs in the monthly alert issued today by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO).

An ethyl alcohol isopropyl alcohol-based xerorub hand santiser manufactured at Sansarpur Terrace in Kangra district and isopropyl rubbing alcohol-based hand sanitiser manufactured at Baddi have been declared not of standard quality. Both were tested by the regional drug testing lab at Chandigarh.

As per the alert, the content of the requisite alcohol was less than the designated level and presence of impurities was detected besides the appropriate Ph level failing to be maintained.

”It is important to maintain the quality of sanitisers. Its samples are regularly drawn to check their quality as its use has increased in the Covid pandemic. Batches of drugs and sanitisers, which have been declared NSQ, would be withdrawn from the market and requisite intervention would be undertaken to ensure production of quality drugs,” informed State Drug Controller, Navneet Marwaha.

Out of the 14 drugs declared NSQ in various states, five pertain to Himachal. This includes three drugs manufactured in Nalagarh. They comprise pheniramine maleate, pregabalin and methylcobalamin capsules and telmisartan tablets manufactured at Khera village in Nalagarh.

## 5 Thousands of counterfeit surgical masks seized in Phoenix, some at Sky Harbor Airport

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-29
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-31
<b>Score</b>	4.65
<b>Report id</b>	867638
<b>Category</b>	Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Airport
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Thousands of counterfeit surgical masks seized in Phoenix, some at Sky Harbor Airport  
AZFamily

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 11: Places for report 867638

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	Phoenix	33.44838	-112.07404

Table 12: Drugs for report 867638

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
silver	Silver compounds	antiseptics and disinfectants	D08AL30

Table 13: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
868144	More than 200,000 counterfeit surgical masks seized by customs officers	<a href="#">Link</a>
870737	Thousands of counterfeit surgical masks seized in Phoenix	<a href="#">Link</a>
868055	More than 200K counterfeit surgical masks seized by customs officers in Arizona	<a href="#">Link</a>
870901	Thousands Of Counterfeit Masks Seized In Phoenix: CBP	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 13: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
871417	Feds seize 200,000 counterfeit surgical masks bound for Az hospitals	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: More than 200,000 counterfeit surgical masks were seized in Phoenix over the last 45 days, some of them at Sky Harbor Airport. The masks were all intended for hospital workers and medical staff throughout the nation.

Homeland Security and Border Patrol agents made the seizures. "Homeland Security Investigations and our partner agencies are committed to identify and seize these potentially hazardous medical products before they could harm our frontline workers," said Scott Brown, Special Agent in Charge for Homeland Security Investigations in Phoenix.

Back in October, federal officers assigned to Sky Harbor inspected an inbound, imported shipment and found it contained 3M N95 masks. One sample mask was removed from the shipment, and it was determined to be counterfeit.

More counterfeit masks were found at the warehouse of a small business linked to the investigation. They ended up being the same type of masks seized at the airport. [...]

## 6 Black market meds: how nuclear analysis can fight trafficking of counterfeit medicines

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-08
<b>Create date</b>	2021-01-13
<b>Score</b>	3.88
<b>Report id</b>	836690
<b>Category</b>	Anti-malarial, Erectile dysfunction medicine, Antiviral others, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Unlicensed outlets
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Black market meds: how nuclear analysis can fight trafficking of counterfeit medicines  
The Conversation UK

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 14: Places for report 836690

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Western Africa	Senegal	Senegal	14.5	-14.25
Central Africa	Cameroon	Republic of Cameroon	6	12.5
		Earth	0	0

Table 15: Drugs for report 836690

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
sildenafil	Drugs used in erectile dysfunction	urologicals	G04BE03
chloroquine	Aminoquinolines	antimalarials	P01BA01

Notes: The trafficking of counterfeit and illegal medicines is a growing global challenge, with many criminal organisations involved and huge amounts of cash changing hands. In our recent research, we propose a new method for testing and tracing illegal counterfeit medicines. The solution is nuclear. [...] The situation is not expected to improve. In fact, Interpol has already seen a rise in fake medical products related to the outbreak of the COVID-19 disease. Opera-



tion Pangea XIII seized US\$14m (£10.4m) worth of counterfeit face masks, sub-standard hand sanitisers and unauthorised antiviral pharmaceutical products in March 2020. They arrested 121 people, and more than 2,500 websites were taken offline. [...] In this regard, we recently proposed a new approach that proved very promising. We got the idea from a previous study carried out by one of the authors of this article. It involves a unique combination of nuclear analytical techniques, specifically ion beam analysis (IBA) and instrumental neutron activation analysis (INAA). The latter uses neutron and proton beams respectively, to analyse every ingredient in a particular illicit product of interest. It can then give us an extensive overview of their composition, down to atomic levels. [...] Today, the biggest challenge in stopping the trafficking of counterfeit medicines is implementing global methods that fight the latest threats as quickly as possible. Criminal organisations are dynamic and laboratories need to keep up. Fake chloroquine, an antimalarial medicine falsely believed to cure COVID-19, is already being sold in Cameroon and in Senegal. Additional information "How COVID-19 is fuelling the trafficking of fake chloroquine in Senegal" (<https://enactafrica.org/enact-observer/how-covid-19-is-fuelling-the-trafficking-of-fake-chloroquine-in-senegal>) 06 Jul 2020: Criminal networks have cashed in on the population's eagerness to acquire the drug. They've developed a parallel economy by trafficking and selling a substandard version of chloroquine. Despite the requisition and the shutdown of air and land borders, these criminal networks have found ways to continue smuggling and feeding the black market with the drug.

Criminal networks benefit from the trade exchange between Senegal and Guinea because trucks carrying goods are exempt from travel restrictions. Counterfeit chloroquine is smuggled into Senegal by truck drivers carrying fruit from Guinea. According to a customs official who spoke to ENACT on condition of anonymity, 'this axis is chosen by criminals because of the absence of a scanner at the police border, unlike the border with Mali, where all trucks carrying goods are systematically checked by a scanner'.

## 7 Europol: Doping raids net 73 million in drugs, 667 arrests

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-10
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-11
<b>Score</b>	3.43
<b>Report id</b>	839814
<b>Category</b>	Medical device for screening/diagnosis/monitoring, Analgesic, Anxiolytic, Antiviral others, Medicine for allergy, Hormone replacement, Medical devices for disease prevention, Chemical laboratory reagents, Other, Antiseptic, Erectile dysfunction medicine, Hypnotic, Anti-oestrogen
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard or Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Clandestine laboratory
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Europol: Doping raids net 73 million in drugs, 667 arrests The Brussels Times

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 16: Places for report 839814

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
		Europe	48.69096	9.14062

Table 17: Drugs for report 839814

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
		anxiolytics	N05B
pseudoephedrine	Sympathomimetics	nasal decongestants for systemic use	R01BA02
	Antivirals	chemotherapeutics for topical use	D06BB
	Antivirals	antiinfectives	S01AD

Table 18: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
840194	European Law Enforcement Agencies Seize \$88.5Mln Worth of Counterfeit Drugs - Europol	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 18: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
849216	EU Authorities Crack Down on Illegal Meds, Arrest Hundreds	<a href="#">Link</a>
840797	Europol net 73 million and arrest 667 in crackdown on illegal medicine	<a href="#">Link</a>
840087	EU Authorities Crack Down on Illegal Meds, Arrest Hundreds	<a href="#">Link</a>
848037	Europol net 73 million and arrest 667 in crackdown on illegal medicine	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: The operation took place between March and September this year, led by police in Finland, France, Greece and Italy and involving 19 EU member states including Belgium, and eight third party countries. It was coordinated by Europol, the European Union's law enforcement agency.

In the end, the operation had broken up 25 criminal gangs, arrested 667 people and seized a wide range of pharmaceutical products, including large amounts of anti-cancer drugs, erectile dysfunction medicines, pseudoephedrine, various doping substances such as hormone and metabolic regulators, painkillers, anti-oestrogens, antivirals, hypnotics, antihistamines and anxiolytics.

Given the period involved, some of the products were Covid-related. Those include 33 million medical devices like face masks, tests, diagnosis kits; eight tonnes of raw materials, chemicals and antivirals and 70,000 litres of sanitisers. [...]

## **Annex**

### **7.5 COVID-19 medicines**

# Medicine Quality Monitoring Globe

January 18, 2021



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We would be grateful for any feedback on this summary and for the details of any reports that we may have missed.

## Filters applied for this report

**Search** ("tranilast" OR "interleukin-2" OR "INC424" OR "TNKase" OR "nitazoxanide" OR "LY3832479" OR "baloxavir" OR "interleukin-7" OR "Kineret" OR "ritonavir" OR "Crizanlizumab" OR "Apixaban" OR "cyclosporin" OR "losartan" OR "ATI-450" OR "nitrogen monoxide" OR "tirofiban" OR "Ebselen" OR "corbistadine" OR "atorvastatin" OR "Eicosapentaenoic" OR "nitrite" OR "Riamilovir" OR "NK-1R" OR "Pemziviptadil" OR "colchicine" OR "Lithium" OR "Vancomycin" OR "Broncho-Vaxom" OR "ramipril" OR "Teicoplanin" OR "tofacitinib" OR "budesonide" OR "Paracetamol" OR "dipyridamole" OR "levamisole" OR "atovaquone" OR "Senicapoc" OR "covid drug" OR "enoxaparin" OR "Brequinar" OR "povidone-iodine" OR "levilimab" OR "degarelix" OR "LY3819253" OR "Sofusbovir" OR "masitinib" OR "Omega-3" OR "INM005" OR "RBT-9" OR "deferroxamine" OR "canakinumab" OR "Ramelteon" OR "chlorpromazine" OR "selinexor" OR "Piclidenoson" OR "DAS181" OR "M5049" OR "Ibudilast" OR "CM4620-IE" OR "GNS561" OR "zanubrutinib" OR "Cenicriviroc" OR "sofosbovir" OR "Trimethoprim" OR "vadadustat" OR "AVM0703" OR "Rabeprazole" OR "Moxifloxacin" OR "cobicistat" OR "BAT2020" OR "ABX464" OR "XAV-19" OR "thalidomide" OR "GX-19" OR "corticosteroid" OR "Tradipitant" OR "cotrimoxazole" OR "HuMax-Inflam" OR "Apilimod" OR "DUR-928" OR "escin" OR "PF-06650833"

OR "octagam" OR "Antroquinonol" OR "pacritinib" OR "Imatinib" OR "ribavirin"  
OR "ambrisentan" OR "baricitinib" OR "imatinib" OR "CD24Fc" OR "Sulodexide"  
OR "AlloStim" OR "DFV890" OR "Emapalumab" OR "sitagliptin" OR "Metformin" OR  
"prednisone" OR "ulinastatin" OR "naltrexone" OR "abidor" OR "niclosamide" OR  
"BI0101" OR "GS-441524" OR "argatroban" OR "Leukine" OR "xiyanping" OR "pegin-  
terferon" OR "pembrolizumab" OR "HuMax" OR "Lambda" OR "dornase" OR "Itracona-  
zole" OR "telemedicine" OR "Adenosine" OR "Curosurf" OR "clarithromycin" OR  
"bromhexine" OR "Xpovio" OR "ebastine" OR "amoxicillin/clavulanate" OR "PD-1  
mAb" OR "oseltamivir" OR "Betamethasone" OR "favipiravir" OR "mefloquine" OR  
"bismuth" OR "CM4620" OR "ifenprodil" OR "Levofloxacin" OR "REGN10987" OR "Can-  
desartan" OR "secukinumab" OR "Trihexyphenidyl" OR "Daclatasvir" OR "pinavir"  
OR "tocilizumab" OR "co-amoxiclav" OR "EG-HPCP-03a" OR "hydroxychloroquine" OR  
"Polyoxidonium" OR "STI-5656" OR "Artesunate" OR "triazavirine" OR "Disulfiram"  
OR "cholecalciferol" OR "INO-4800" OR "PG1" OR "zinc" OR "oxytocin" OR "gim-  
silumab" OR "suramin" OR "rhG-CSF" OR "desferoxamine" OR "TD-0903" OR "OM-85"  
OR "Bucillamine" OR "pirfenidone" OR "Acetaminophen" OR "adamumab" OR "sul-  
famethoxazole" OR "BI 764198" OR "RPH-104" OR "COVID-19 drug" OR "alpha lipoic"  
OR "almitrine" OR "melphalan" OR "TMJ2" OR "dapagliflozin" OR "NBT-NM108" OR  
"Icosapent" OR "Ceftriaxone" OR "isoprinosine" OR "IMU-838" OR "tridecactide" OR  
"chloroquine" OR "CSL324" OR "Lian Hua Qing Weng" OR "Kevzara" OR "valsartan" OR  
"mepiluzumab" OR "Namilumab" OR "Prednisolone" OR "sargramostim" OR "estradiol"  
OR "cyclosporine" OR "Aprepitant" OR "silymarin" OR "linagliptin" OR "Noscapi-  
ne" OR "Gemtuzumab" OR "methylprednisolone" OR "fluvoxamine" OR "Coroquard" OR  
"mavrilimumab" OR "anakinra" OR "ozanimod" OR "mepolizumab" OR "acetylsalicylic"  
OR "darunavir" OR "novaferon" OR "YinHu QingWen" OR "OM85" OR "camrelizumab" OR  
"Cosentyx" OR "estrogen" OR "dexmedetomidine" OR "LL-37" OR "Dantonix" OR "ri-  
varoxaban" OR "adalimumab" OR "apremilast" OR "polyinosinic-polycytidylic" OR  
"farpiravir" OR "montelukast" OR "Ibuprofen" OR "IFX-1" OR "Iodine" OR "Molnupi-  
ravir" OR "Pioglitazone" OR "verapamil" OR "Rapamycin" OR "Brexanolone" OR "El-  
trombopag" OR "ravulizumab" OR "hydrocortisone" OR "auxora" OR "tinzaparin" OR  
"Vascepa" OR "omalizumab" OR "Tybost" OR "Actemra" OR "dociparastat" OR "NA-831"  
OR "ascorbic acid" OR "MAS825" OR "C21" OR "RoActemra" OR "eculizumab" OR "Bi-  
valirudin" OR "povidon-iodine" OR "ivermectin" OR "Pamrevlumab" OR "danoprevir"  
OR "Neurokinin" OR "sirolimus" OR "Fostamatinib" OR "resveratrol" OR "Icatibant"  
OR "bromelain" OR "dexamethasone" OR "TJ003234" OR "iloprost" OR "tacrolimus" OR  
"astegolimab" OR "interferon" OR "plitidepsin" OR "metenkefalin" OR "azoximer"  
OR "lopinavir" OR "Tazobactam" OR "carrimycin" OR "CM-4620" OR "CYT107" OR  
"Heparin" OR "Pyronaridine-Artesunate" OR "Itolizumab" OR "zilucoplan" OR "ox-  
pentifylline" OR "AT-001" OR "Abivertinib" OR "doxycycline" OR "Nigella Sativa"  
OR "AZD1222" OR "Ieronlimab" OR "Enalapril" OR "nangibotide" OR "Piperacillin"  
OR "bevacizumab" OR "lactoferrin" OR "UTTR1147A" OR "Caesalpinia spinosa" OR  
"mometasone" OR "hydroxychloroquin" OR "Febuxostat" OR "lanadelumab" OR "Thymal-  
fasin" OR "huaier extract" OR "Levoflozacin" OR "Pentoxifylline" OR "tozumab" OR  
"NP-120" OR "Alvelestat" OR "captopril" OR "merimepodib" OR "lota-Carrageenan"  
OR "Lianhua Qingwen" OR "GLS-1200" OR "aescinate" OR "tranexamic" OR "Ledi-  
pasvir" OR "ISIS 721744" OR "procalcitonin" OR "SNDX-6352" OR "sirukumab" OR  
"Enzalutamide" OR "carrimycin" OR "bemiparin" OR "T89" OR "Spironolactone" OR  
"fingolimod" OR "aspirin" OR "Remdesivir" OR "pyridostigmine" OR "Prolastin"  
OR "EC-18" OR "poractant" OR "isotretinoin" OR "telmisartan" OR "TJM2 TJM-2"

OR "lenzilumab" OR "avdoralimab" OR "duvelisib" OR "BIO 300" OR "bicalutamide" OR "Ilaris" OR "atlizumab" OR "desferrioxamine" OR "LB1148" OR "vitamin D3" OR "Clopidogrel" OR "CD24" OR "tetrandrine" OR "Lansoprazole" OR "Ruconest" OR "amoxicillin" OR "Trifluoperazine" OR "Ganovo" OR "nitric Oxide" OR "chlorine dioxide" OR "olokizumab" OR "lucinactant" OR "galidesivir" OR "TXA127" OR "Maraviroc" OR "conestat" OR "CA S001" OR "vazegepant" OR "REGN10933" OR "Propranolol" OR "Fisetin" OR "Previfenon" OR "omega 3" OR "thymosin" OR "Prasugrel" OR "retinoic acid" OR "Ceftaroline" OR "sevoflurane" OR "amoxicillin/clavulanic acid" OR "oestrogen" OR "leflunomide" OR "virazole" OR "PLN-74809" OR "ATYR1923" OR "Olumiant" OR "dalargin" OR "Alinia" OR "methotrexate" OR "dapan-sutril" OR "artemisinin" OR "ibrutinib" OR "aescin" OR "CERC-002" OR "fludase" OR "isoflurane" OR "XPro1595" OR "LY-CoV555" OR "CAS0001" OR "immunoglobulin" OR "nafamostat" OR "Crocetinate" OR "Diphenhydramine" OR "BIO 101" OR "AZD1656" OR "PTC299" OR "amodiaquine" OR "casirivimab" OR "BGB-DXP593" OR "opaganib" OR "melatonin" OR "huaier granule" OR "HuMax-IL8" OR "famotidine" OR "GLS-1027" OR "Trimodulin" OR "tenofovir" OR "Primaquine" OR "AMY-101" OR "umifenovir" OR "EDP1815" OR "Vitamin B12" OR "Gamunex-C" OR "Bardoxolone" OR "AstroStem-V" OR "LAU-7b" OR "Vitamin E" OR "Vitamin B" OR "RTB101" OR "curcumin" OR "fondaparinux" OR "Edoxaban" OR "L-Citrulline" OR "ciclesonide" OR "azithromycin" OR "remdesivir" OR "Diltiazem" OR "Methylene blue" OR "clazakizumab" OR "BCX4430" OR "Pyronaridine" OR "Quercetin" OR "Toremifene" OR "COVI-AMG" OR "etoposide" OR "DWJ1248" OR "defibrotide" OR "AT-527" OR "prazosin" OR "triazavirin" OR "BIO300" OR "Ensifentrine" OR "Anti-IL-8" OR "dihydroartemisinin" OR "vitamin c" OR "25-hydroxyvitamin D3" OR "coronavirus drug" OR "formoterol" OR "indomethacin" OR "Rayaldee" OR "ciclosporin" OR "naproxen" OR "fluoxetine" OR "Infliximab" OR "Tenecteplase" OR "ruxolitinib" OR "Molgramostim" OR "vitamin D" OR "simvastatin" OR "alteplase" OR "sildenafil" OR "isoquercetin" OR "GC4419" OR "ketamine" OR "Razuprotafib" OR "camostat" OR "Arbidol" OR "Montmorrillonite" OR "acalabrutinib" OR "nivolumab" OR "aviptadil" OR "PUL-042" OR "diammonium" OR "Clevudine" OR "nitrogen oxide" OR "BMS-986253" OR "siltuximab" OR "interleukin 2" OR "jakotinib" OR "nintedanib" OR "Axatilimab" OR "garadacimab" OR "Treamid" OR "ASC09" OR "emtricitabine" OR "LY-CoV016" OR "Pulmozyme" OR "Prostaglandin" OR "ciclosporine" OR "hydrogen peroxide" OR "sarilumab" OR "Losmapimod" OR "azvudine" OR "BLD-2660" OR "EIDD-2801" OR "MSTT1041A" OR "Desidustat" OR "abidole" OR "omeprazole" OR "progesterone" OR "Decitabine" OR "tocopherol" OR "berberine" OR "APL-9" OR "colomycin" OR "XC221" OR "amiodarone" OR "lenalidomide" OR "imdevimab" OR "ixekizumab" OR "VentaProst" OR "acetylcysteine" OR "LY3127804" OR "Atazanavir" OR "TL-895" OR "dalteparin" OR "Thimerosal" OR "Xue-Bi-Jing" OR "GC376" OR "Angiotensin" OR "gs-441542" OR "Risankizumab" OR "co-trimoxazole") OR (("Plasma" OR "Treatment" OR "Monoclonal antibodies" OR "Medication" OR "Antibody therapy" OR "Antibody cocktail") AND ("CV19" OR "新冠病毒" OR "武汉新型冠状病毒" OR "非典" OR "SARS" OR "CoV-2" OR "vi rút corona" OR "武汉肺炎" OR "COVID-19" OR "COVID" OR "新冠疫情" OR "新型冠状病毒肺炎" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "CV" OR "Coronavirus" OR "CV-19" OR "SRAS" OR "新型冠状病毒" OR "新冠"))

Start date	2020-12-01
End date	2020-12-31
Language	en

<b>Report type</b>	incident
<b>Curation status</b>	validated
<b>Number of Reports</b>	31



# 1 Counterfeit HIV Drug Identified in Three US Pharmacies

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-28
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-29
<b>Score</b>	50.35
<b>Report id</b>	865867
<b>Category</b>	Antiretroviral
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Private pharmacy
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Counterfeit HIV Drug Identified in Three US Pharmacies Monthly Prescribing Reference

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 1: Places for report 865867

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Table 2: Drugs for report 865867

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
cobicistat	Other therapeutic products	all other therapeutic products	V03AX03
emtricitabine	Nucleoside and nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitors	direct acting antivirals	J05AF09
tenofovir alafenamide	Nucleoside and nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitors	direct acting antivirals	J05AF13
darunavir	Protease inhibitors	direct acting antivirals	J05AE10

Table 3: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
889985	Counterfeit Janssen HIV drug discovered in US pharmacies	<a href="#">Link</a>
867212	Janssen warns of fake HIV drug Symtuza in US supply chain	<a href="#">Link</a>
867576	Counterfeit HIV Med Symtuza Found in Three U.S. Pharmacies	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: Counterfeit Symtuza® (darunavir, cobicistat, emtricitabine, tenofovir alafenamide) has been identified in 3 pharmacies in the US, according to an alert issued by Janssen. [...] The counterfeit products, which were procured from unauthorized distributors, are being investigated by Janssen and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). [...] In a statement, the Company clarified that Symtuza obtained from authorized distributors should be considered safe for use. The authentic product is supplied as yellow to yellowish-brown, capsule-shaped, film-coated tablets debossed with "8121" on one side and "JG" on the other side. [...] Currently, there have been no reports of adverse events related to the use of the counterfeit product. Adverse events related to Symtuza or the counterfeit drug should be reported to FDA's MedWatch Program or Janssen Medical Information.

## 2 Black market meds: how nuclear analysis can fight trafficking of counterfeit medicines

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-08
<b>Create date</b>	2021-01-13
<b>Score</b>	19.08
<b>Report id</b>	836690
<b>Category</b>	Anti-malarial, Erectile dysfunction medicine, Antiviral others, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Unlicensed outlets
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Black market meds: how nuclear analysis can fight trafficking of counterfeit medicines  
The Conversation UK

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 4: Places for report 836690

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Western Africa	Senegal	Senegal	14.5	-14.25
Central Africa	Cameroon	Republic of Cameroon	6	12.5
		Earth	0	0

Table 5: Drugs for report 836690

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
sildenafil	Drugs used in erectile dysfunction	urologicals	G04BE03
chloroquine	Aminoquinolines	antimalarials	P01BA01

Notes: The trafficking of counterfeit and illegal medicines is a growing global challenge, with many criminal organisations involved and huge amounts of cash changing hands. In our recent research, we propose a new method for testing and tracing illegal counterfeit medicines. The solution is nuclear. [...] The situation is not expected to improve. In fact, Interpol has already seen a rise in fake medical products related to the outbreak of the COVID-19 disease. Opera-

tion Pangea XIII seized US\$14m (£10.4m) worth of counterfeit face masks, sub-standard hand sanitisers and unauthorised antiviral pharmaceutical products in March 2020. They arrested 121 people, and more than 2,500 websites were taken offline. [...] In this regard, we recently proposed a new approach that proved very promising. We got the idea from a previous study carried out by one of the authors of this article. It involves a unique combination of nuclear analytical techniques, specifically ion beam analysis (IBA) and instrumental neutron activation analysis (INAA). The latter uses neutron and proton beams respectively, to analyse every ingredient in a particular illicit product of interest. It can then give us an extensive overview of their composition, down to atomic levels. [...] Today, the biggest challenge in stopping the trafficking of counterfeit medicines is implementing global methods that fight the latest threats as quickly as possible. Criminal organisations are dynamic and laboratories need to keep up. Fake chloroquine, an antimalarial medicine falsely believed to cure COVID-19, is already being sold in Cameroon and in Senegal. Additional information "How COVID-19 is fuelling the trafficking of fake chloroquine in Senegal" (<https://enactafrica.org/enact-observer/how-covid-19-is-fuelling-the-trafficking-of-fake-chloroquine-in-senegal>) 06 Jul 2020: Criminal networks have cashed in on the population's eagerness to acquire the drug. They've developed a parallel economy by trafficking and selling a substandard version of chloroquine. Despite the requisition and the shutdown of air and land borders, these criminal networks have found ways to continue smuggling and feeding the black market with the drug.

Criminal networks benefit from the trade exchange between Senegal and Guinea because trucks carrying goods are exempt from travel restrictions. Counterfeit chloroquine is smuggled into Senegal by truck drivers carrying fruit from Guinea. According to a customs official who spoke to ENACT on condition of anonymity, 'this axis is chosen by criminals because of the absence of a scanner at the police border, unlike the border with Mali, where all trucks carrying goods are systematically checked by a scanner'.

### 3 MP man who sold fake plasma to Covid patient's family held

Publication date	2020-12-12
Create date	2020-12-14
Score	18.46
Report id	843934
Category	Other
Quality	Falsified
Source	Unlicensed outlets
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: MP man who sold fake plasma to Covid patient's family held The Indian Express

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 6: Places for report 843934

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Asia	India	Gwalior	26.22983	78.17337

Table 7: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
844491	Gang selling 'substandard' plasma busted in MP, could be tip of the iceberg	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: The police on Saturday arrested a man who allegedly sold diluted plasma to the family of a Covid-19 patient in Gwalior earlier this month. The patient, admitted to a private hospital in the city, died later. [...] Tyagi, who identified himself as an employee of 'JEH hospital's blood bank', sold the plasma for Rs 18,000 along with a receipt of the blood bank. It was only when Gupta's health deteriorated that the family grew suspicious. It reached out to the blood bank to find out that there was no person by the name of Tyagi there. The receipt, too, was fake. [...]

## 4 Drugs, sanitisers found substandard

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-15
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-15
<b>Score</b>	14.99
<b>Report id</b>	848258
<b>Category</b>	Cardiovascular medicine, Antiepileptic, Vitamin, Medicine for allergy, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Manufacturer
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Drugs, sanitisers found substandard The Tribune

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 8: Places for report 848258

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Asia	India	Nālāgarh	31.04168	76.72285
Southern Asia	India	Kangra	32.16667	76.25
Southern Asia	India	Baddi	30.95783	76.79136
Southern Asia	India	State of Himāchal Pradesh	31.91667	77.25

Table 9: Drugs for report 848258

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
telmisartan	Angiotensin II antagonists, plain	angiotensin ii antagonists, plain	C09CA07
pheniramine	Antihistamines for topical use	antipruritics, incl. antihistamines, anesthetics, etc.	D04AA16
pheniramine	Substituted alkylamines	antihistamines for systemic use	R06AB05
pregabalin	Other antiepileptics	antiepileptics	N03AX16

Table 10: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
866109	Five Pharma product samples fail quality test in HP	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: Hand sanitisers manufactured by two firms in Himachal were declared not of standard quality (NSQ) besides three other drugs in the monthly alert issued today by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO).

An ethyl alcohol isopropyl alcohol-based xerorub hand santiser manufactured at Sansarpur Terrace in Kangra district and isopropyl rubbing alcohol-based hand sanitiser manufactured at Baddi have been declared not of standard quality. Both were tested by the regional drug testing lab at Chandigarh.

As per the alert, the content of the requisite alcohol was less than the designated level and presence of impurities was detected besides the appropriate Ph level failing to be maintained.

”It is important to maintain the quality of sanitisers. Its samples are regularly drawn to check their quality as its use has increased in the Covid pandemic. Batches of drugs and sanitisers, which have been declared NSQ, would be withdrawn from the market and requisite intervention would be undertaken to ensure production of quality drugs,” informed State Drug Controller, Navneet Marwaha.

Out of the 14 drugs declared NSQ in various states, five pertain to Himachal. This includes three drugs manufactured in Nalagarh. They comprise pheniramine maleate, pregabalin and methylcobalamin capsules and telmisartan tablets manufactured at Khera village in Nalagarh.

## 5 Fake coronavirus test kits seized at San Diego airport

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-11
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-14
<b>Score</b>	14.06
<b>Report id</b>	842418
<b>Category</b>	Medical device for screening/diagnosis/monitoring
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Airport
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Fake coronavirus test kits seized at San Diego airport KTLA

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 11: Places for report 842418

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	San Diego	32.71533	-117.15726

Notes: The shipment that arrived at the San Diego International Airport from Mexico was labeled as "plastic card." Instead, the the two parcels held 251 illicit COVID-19 testing kits, authorities said this week.

The Dec. 1 seizure at the Port of San Diego is part of a larger trend seen at border crossings and commercial ports, as the black market rises to profit off the demand for testing.

Shipments of tests that are fake, mislabeled or not approved by the Food and Drug Administration have been seen since the early days of the pandemic, with port seizures reported in Rochester, N.Y., Chicago, Indianapolis and elsewhere.

At the Los Angeles Port of Entry in March, a parcel at the international airport's mail facility was labeled "Purified Water Vials," according to Customs and Border Protection. After further inspection, officers found vials filled with a white liquid and labeled "Corona Virus 2019nconv (COVID-19)" and "Virus1 Test Kit," CBP said. The shipment had come from the United Kingdom.



## 6 Europol: Doping raids net 73 million in drugs, 667 arrests

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-10
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-11
<b>Score</b>	13.88
<b>Report id</b>	839814
<b>Category</b>	Medical device for screening/diagnosis/monitoring, Analgesic, Anxiolytic, Antiviral others, Medicine for allergy, Hormone replacement, Medical devices for disease prevention, Chemical laboratory reagents, Other, Antiseptic, Erectile dysfunction medicine, Hypnotic, Anti-oestrogen
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard or Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Clandestine laboratory
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Europol: Doping raids net 73 million in drugs, 667 arrests The Brussels Times

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 12: Places for report 839814

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
		Europe	48.69096	9.14062

Table 13: Drugs for report 839814

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
		anxiolytics	N05B
pseudoephedrine	Sympathomimetics	nasal decongestants for systemic use	R01BA02
	Antivirals	chemotherapeutics for topical use	D06BB
	Antivirals	antiinfectives	S01AD

Table 14: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
840194	European Law Enforcement Agencies Seize \$88.5Mln Worth of Counterfeit Drugs - Europol	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 14: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
849216	EU Authorities Crack Down on Illegal Meds, Arrest Hundreds	<a href="#">Link</a>
840797	Europol net 73 million and arrest 667 in crackdown on illegal medicine	<a href="#">Link</a>
840087	EU Authorities Crack Down on Illegal Meds, Arrest Hundreds	<a href="#">Link</a>
848037	Europol net 73 million and arrest 667 in crackdown on illegal medicine	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: The operation took place between March and September this year, led by police in Finland, France, Greece and Italy and involving 19 EU member states including Belgium, and eight third party countries. It was coordinated by Europol, the European Union's law enforcement agency.

In the end, the operation had broken up 25 criminal gangs, arrested 667 people and seized a wide range of pharmaceutical products, including large amounts of anti-cancer drugs, erectile dysfunction medicines, pseudoephedrine, various doping substances such as hormone and metabolic regulators, painkillers, anti-oestrogens, antivirals, hypnotics, antihistamines and anxiolytics.

Given the period involved, some of the products were Covid-related. Those include 33 million medical devices like face masks, tests, diagnosis kits; eight tonnes of raw materials, chemicals and antivirals and 70,000 litres of sanitisers. [...]

## 7 400,000 Excedrin bottles recalled over holes in bottles - Business Insider

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-23
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-27
<b>Score</b>	13.41
<b>Report id</b>	862732
<b>Category</b>	Antimigraine
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Manufacturer
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: 400,000 Excedrin bottles recalled over holes in bottles - Business Insider Business Insider

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 15: Places for report 862732

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Table 16: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
891266	Excedrin recalls more than 400k bottles of popular headache, migraine painkillers	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: About 433,600 units of Excedrin bottles have been recalled due to a packaging issue that has left holes in multiple bottles.

Five Excedrin brands — migraine caplets, migraine gels, extra strength caplets, PM headache caplets, and tension headache caplets — are included in the recall, which was posted on December 23.

According to GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), which manufactures Excedrin, certain bottles of the migraine medication contain holes in the bottom that could cause a poisoning risk among children with easy access to the pills. The Poison Prevention Packaging Act requires that substances containing aspirin and acetaminophen, like Excedrin, must be protected with child-resistant packaging. [...]

## 8 One person dead in Japan after taking skin medication tainted with sleeping drug

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-12
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-15
<b>Score</b>	12.95
<b>Report id</b>	843376
<b>Category</b>	Antifungal
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Manufacturer
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: One person dead in Japan after taking skin medication tainted with sleeping drug The Mainichi

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 17: Places for report 843376

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Eastern Asia	Japan	Tokyo	35.6895	139.69171

Table 18: Drugs for report 843376

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
itraconazole	Triazole derivatives	antimycotics for systemic use	J02AC02

Table 19: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
854028	Japan firm may have ignored test results for skin medication tainted with sleeping drug	<a href="#">Link</a>
845381	Woman dies after taking tablet tainted with sleeping drug	<a href="#">Link</a>
866119	Elderly woman dies after taking tablet tainted with sleeping pill : The Asahi Shimbun	<a href="#">Link</a>
845709	Japanese woman dies, dozens ill after taking contaminated medicine	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 19: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
846795	Japan firm may have ignored test results for skin medication tainted with sleeping drug	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: One person is dead after taking a skin condition medication that had been mistakenly tainted with a sleep-inducing drug, the medication's maker announced on Dec. 11. Kobayashi Kako Co., based in Awara, Fukui Prefecture, on the Sea of Japan, identified the deceased as a woman in her 70s who had been hospitalized in the Tokyo metropolitan area. She died on Dec. 10 after ingesting the "Itraconazole tablet 50 'MEEK'" antifungal medication, the company said. It is investigating the details of the incident, including the direct causal link between taking the medication and the woman's death, the first recorded related to the drug. [...] The substance that was supposed to be added was contained in a paper cylinder about 1 meter in length, while the mistakenly added sleep-inducing drug, identified as rilmazafone hydrochloride hydrate, was in a square tin can, which bore the name of the substance and the lot number. [...] The company is in the middle of a voluntary recall of "Itraconazole tablet 50 'MEEK'" with the lot number "T0EG08," as well as Itraconazole tablets 100 and 200. These latter two do not appear to contain the soporific, but were manufactured using the unauthorized substance addition process. Fukui Prefecture is considering an additional inspection following its Dec. 9 on-site check, as the commingling of the substance could violate the pharmaceuticals and medical devices act. [...]

## 9 2nd death reported among users of Japanese pharma's tainted antifungal medication

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-17
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-22
<b>Score</b>	12.71
<b>Report id</b>	851679
<b>Category</b>	Antifungal
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Manufacturer
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: 2nd death reported among users of Japanese pharma's tainted antifungal medication  
The Mainichi

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 20: Places for report 851679

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Eastern Asia	Japan	Fukui	35.85	136.21667

Table 21: Drugs for report 851679

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
itraconazole	Triazole derivatives	antimycotics for systemic use	J02AC02

Table 22: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
856607	Doctor, patients enraged over Japanese pharma's tainted antifungal medication	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: A second death has been reported among users of skin medication tainted with a sleep-inducing substance that was mistakenly added at a central Japan drug firm

Pharmaceutical manufacturer Kobayashi Kako Co. based in Fukui Prefecture announced on

Dec. 17 that a man in his 80s in central Japan who had been taking "Itraconazole tablet 50 'MEEK'" antifungal medication had died. The company had earlier revealed that a woman in her 70s died after taking the contaminated drug. [...]

## 10 Interpol notes fake Covid-19 vaccine bust in SA

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-28
<b>Create date</b>	2021-01-05
<b>Score</b>	11.97
<b>Report id</b>	865724
<b>Category</b>	Vaccine, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Unlicensed outlets
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Interpol notes fake Covid-19 vaccine bust in SA The Citizen

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 23: Places for report 865724

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Africa	South Africa	Germiston	-26.23481	28.17665

Table 24: Drugs for report 865724

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
			J07

Table 25: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
867157	Interpol warns of fake vaccines targeting the desperate in SA	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: International policing agency, Interpol, has taken note of a fake Covid-19 vaccine bust in South Africa. The South African Police Service's (SAPS's) Vishnu Naidoo confirmed the incident in November where three suspects were arrested following the seizure of counterfeit Covid-19 vaccines in Germiston. It is believed that several hundreds of ampules of unregistered vaccines were imported from China, with Interpol saying they were advertised as for sale on WeChat. When law-enforcement authorities searched the industrial park in Germiston, they also came across and confiscated a large quantity of fake N95 masks. [...] Additional informa-



tion reportID: 867157 (<https://www.sowetanlive.co.za/news/south-africa/2020-12-29-interpol-warns-of-fake-vaccines-targeting-the-desperate-in-sa/>): Gauteng police busted an operation selling fake vaccines and masks operating from two warehouses at Growthpoint Industrial Park at Bell Street, Meadowdale, Germiston, on November 19. [...] The suspects have been identified as a Zambian and a person from China. [...] The 400 ampoules of fake vaccines and masks were imported from Singapore to SA from a legal company through OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg.

## 11 Incidents of vaccine falsification are not new for India and the world: Nakul Pasricha

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-08
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-10
<b>Score</b>	10.89
<b>Report id</b>	836309
<b>Category</b>	Vaccine, Medical devices for disease prevention
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Unlicensed outlets
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Incidents of vaccine falsification are not new for India and the world: Nakul Pasricha  
Express Healthcare

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 26: Places for report 836309

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Asia	India	Republic of India	22	79
South-Eastern Asia	Philippines	Republic of the Philippines	13	122
		South America	-14.60485	-57.65625
Eastern Asia	China	People's Republic of China	35	105

Table 27: Drugs for report 836309

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
			J07
	Rabies vaccines	viral vaccines	J07BG

Table 28: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
863014	Budget 2021: Government must earmark a budget to stop counterfeiting of COVID-19 vaccines	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 28: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
846945	Beware, Fake Covid-19 Vaccines Ready To Hit The Market: Anti-Counterfeit Body	<a href="#">Link</a>
868482	Authentication, traceability measures can ensure the genuineness of vaccines: Nakul Pasricha	<a href="#">Link</a>
839325	Beware, Fake Covid-19 Vaccines Ready To Hit The Market: Anti-Counterfeit Body	<a href="#">Link</a>
855288	Budget 2021: Government must earmark a budget to stop counterfeiting of COVID-19 vaccines	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: India's immunisation supply chain has been breached before and besides counterfeit PPE kits, there are already reports of fake COVID-19 vaccines, warns Nakul Pasricha, President, Authentication Solution Providers' Association. In an interaction with Viveka Roychowdhury, he lists out how hospitals can secure their pharmacies and supply agencies with cutting edge authentication and traceability solutions and by training staff to spot the fakes [...] There are concerns related to product security, falsification, theft and counterfeiting of vaccines. Healthcare management of hospitals need to ensure a preventive mechanism by which they can identify any irregularities during vaccine pre procurement and post vaccination. [...] In October 2018, a Chinese vaccination firm was fined \$1.3 billion after it was found to have illegally produced the human rabies vaccines. In December 2018, a large university-affiliated hospital in the Philippines discovered that their legitimate supply chain was infiltrated with counterfeit rabies vaccines (Verorab). In May 2020, fake Israeli coronavirus vaccines were being sold in South America. In India also there have been incidents. Last year, a big racket was busted in Rajasthan involved in counterfeit Meningitis vaccines. Fraudulent people have already started their malpractices. Three months ago, in September 2020, Odisha's drug enforcement agency arrested a man on charges of trying to sell fake COVID-19 vaccines in the Bargarh district. The accused was found preparing vials with COVID-19 vaccine stickers on them. In this year, itself, various agencies had issued alerts raising the concerns of fake incidents. [...] One of the major supplies agency of a big state in India has continuously been accused of supplying sub-standard personal protection equipment (PPE) to state-run-hospitals. These PPE kits supplied by them allegedly bore two stamps-those of an Indian PSU and "Made in China". Even the viral transport vials, supplied by the agency came in different colours. [...]

## 12 Taiwanese businessman charged for selling counterfeit masks from China

Publication date	2020-12-15
Create date	2020-12-15
Score	10.49
Report id	847198
Category	Medical devices for disease prevention
Quality	Falsified
Source	Unlicensed outlets
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: Taiwanese businessman charged for selling counterfeit masks from China Taiwan News

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 29: Places for report 847198

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Eastern Asia	Taiwan	Taipei	25.04776	121.53185

Notes: The owner of Carry Mask was indicted Tuesday (Dec. 15) for making NT\$34 million (US\$1.21 million) by passing off face masks from China as made in Taiwan.

Lin Ming-chin's ( ) company was part of the "National Face Mask Team" of private-sector manufacturers requisitioned by the government earlier this year to produce masks and mask-making machines in the face of the worsening coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

In addition to selling 3.95 million masks from China unsuitable for medical use, Lin is still under investigation for distributing unauthorized children's masks, CNA reported.

The scam came to light in September when a pharmacist in New Taipei City looked inside a box of masks sent in by mail and found a user's manual in the simplified Chinese characters used in China but not in Taiwan. She alerted the health authorities, which began an investigation through the Shilin Prosecutors Office.

On June 1, Lin had concluded an agreement with the government to produce 190,000 masks a day, but through acquaintances in China, he bought 4.6 million masks from a company in Anhui and had them repackaged as made in Taiwan.

### 13 Public Notification: Imperla Elita Vitaccino contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17

Publication date	2020-12-17
Create date	2020-12-22
Score	9.72
Report id	851059
Category	Nutritional supplement
Quality	Substandard
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is advising consumers not to purchase or use Imperla Elita Vitaccino, a product promoted and sold for weight loss on various websites, including eBay.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 30: Places for report 851059

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that Imperla Elita Vitaccino purchased from eBay.com contains sibutramine and fluoxetine. [...]

## 14 More potentially dangerous mouthwashes and hand sanitizers recalled

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-29
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-31
<b>Score</b>	9.39
<b>Report id</b>	867578
<b>Category</b>	Antiseptic
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Manufacturer
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: More potentially dangerous mouthwashes and hand sanitizers recalled CBS News

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 31: Places for report 867578

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	California	37.25022	-119.75126
Americas	United States	Minnesota	46.25024	-94.25055

Table 32: Drugs for report 867578

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
ethanol	Other antiseptics and disinfectants	antiseptics and disinfectants	D08AX08
ethanol	Antidotes	all other therapeutic products	V03AB16
ethanol	Nerve depressants	all other therapeutic products	V03AZ01
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives and antiseptics for local oral treatment	stomatological preparations	A01AB03
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives	irrigating solutions	B05CA02
chlorhexidine	Biguanides and amidines	antiseptics and disinfectants	D08AC02

Table 32: Drugs for report 867578(continued)

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
chlorhexidine	Medicated dressings with antiinfectives	medicated dressings	D09AA12
chlorhexidine	Antiseptics	throat preparations	R02AA05
chlorhexidine	Other antiinfectives	antiinfectives	S01AX09
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives	antiinfectives	S02AA09
chlorhexidine	Antiinfectives	antiinfectives	S03AA04

Table 33: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
869552	More Dangerous Mouthwashes and Hand Sanitizers Recalled	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: Another company is recalling hand sanitizer because it may contain methanol, a possibly toxic substance also known as wood alcohol, lengthening the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's list of disinfections to avoid. Separately, an oral rinse is also being recalled because it may be contaminated with a bacteria particularly dangerous for those infected with COVID-19, the FDA said. [...] Manufactured in China, the recalled sanitizer was distributed nationwide to wholesale and retail customers by Innovative Marketing Consultants of Spring Park, Minnesota. The recalled products are packaged in a white opaque or clear plastic bottle with either a blue, clear or black cap and are labeled as IMC Wash Free Hand Sanitizer, Wash Free Hand Sanitizer and Thrifty White Pharmacy Hand Sanitizer.

After observing a spike in hand sanitizers that claimed to contain ethanol but tested positive for methanol, a substance used in fuel and antifreeze, the FDA has compiled a list of more than 220 products that consumers should steer clear of. [...] Separately, a recall of GUM Paroex Chlorhexidine Gluconate Oral Rinse for a possible bacterial contamination has been expanded after manufacturer Sunstar Americas learned of 29 infections. [...]

## 15 Gardai seize drugs worth record 53.5m during pandemic – almost double 2019 haul in ‘bonanza year’

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-13
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-14
<b>Score</b>	9.21
<b>Report id</b>	844349
<b>Category</b>	Anaesthetic
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Unlicensed outlets
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Gardai seize drugs worth record 53.5m during pandemic – almost double 2019 haul in ‘bonanza year’ The Irish Sun

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 34: Places for report 844349

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Europe	Ireland	Ireland	53	-8

Table 35: Drugs for report 844349

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
ketamine	Other general anesthetics	anesthetics, general	N01AX03

Notes: Coronavirus restrictions and checkpoints are a transportation nightmare for gangs who are being forced to give up their product in record quantities. [...] Some 940,000 worth of ketamine was also seized — with the rest made up of diamorphine, methedrone and prescription pills.



## 16 Pharmaceutical distributor recalls packages of VIAGRA and depression medication after mix-up

Publication date	2020-12-10
Create date	2020-12-11
Score	6.56
Report id	840715
Category	Erectile dysfunction medicine, Antidepressant
Quality	Substandard
Source	Manufacturer
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: Pharmaceutical distributor recalls packages of VIAGRA and depression medication after mix-up Daily Mail

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 36: Places for report 840715

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Table 37: Drugs for report 840715

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
trazodone	Other antidepressants	antidepressants	N06AX05
sildenafil	Drugs used in erectile dysfunction	urologicals	G04BE03

Table 38: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
881930	AvKARE Issues Voluntary Nationwide Recall of Sildenafil 100mg Tablets and Trazodone 100mg Tablets Due to Product Mix-Up	<a href="#">Link</a>
844821	Recall Issued After 'Mix-Up' With Depression And Erectile Dysfunction Pills	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 38: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
841766	Pharma recall: Depression and erectile dysfunction drugs mistakenly "mixed-up"	<a href="#">Link</a>
875572	Antidepressant and ED Medication Recalled After Factory Mix-Up	<a href="#">Link</a>
847463	Drugs recalled after erectile dysfunction medication mixed with antidepressant in packaging 'mix-up' - KLAS	<a href="#">Link</a>
850804	Drugs recalled after erectile dysfunction medication mixed with antidepressant in packaging 'mix-up'	<a href="#">Link</a>
875388	Drug recall: An erectile dysfunction drug and an antidepressant got mixed up	<a href="#">Link</a>
858004	Drug recall: erectile dysfunction medication mixed with antidepressant in packaging 'mix-up'	<a href="#">Link</a>
843668	Drugs recalled after erectile dysfunction medication mixed with antidepressant in packaging 'mix-up'	<a href="#">Link</a>
856231	Recall issued due to mix-up that packaged erectile dysfunction medication with antidepressant	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: A pharmaceutical distributor has voluntarily recalled packages of Viagra and drugs used to treat depression after a 'product mix-up' caused them to be packaged together.

AvKARE announced on Wednesday one lot of sildenafil and one lot of trazodone tablets were 'inadvertently packaged together during bottling at a 3rd party facility'.

The 100mg sildenafil tablets and the 100mg trazodone tables are being recalled at the consumer level, according to AvKARE's statement. [...] According to a chart shared by AvKARE, the affected lots are: Sildenafil 100mg Tablet, Lot 36884 with an expiration date of 03/2022; and Trazodone Hydrochloride 100mg Tablet, Lot 36783 with an expiration date of 06/2022. [...]

## 17 Fake prescription drugs may have killed two teens in Weatherford, police say

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-02
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-03
<b>Score</b>	6.19
<b>Report id</b>	829002
<b>Category</b>	Analgesic, Opioid
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Unknown
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Fake prescription drugs may have killed two teens in Weatherford, police say Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 39: Places for report 829002

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	Weatherford	32.7593	-97.79725

Table 40: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
831704	Weatherford Police Investigate Two Deaths Linked to Counterfeit Prescription Medication	<a href="#">Link</a>
835552	Fake prescription drugs may have killed two teens in Weatherford, police say	<a href="#">Link</a>
851951	Investigators: Counterfeit Opioids Could Be Factor In Death Of 2 North Texas Teenagers	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: Two November deaths of teens in Weatherford could be linked to counterfeit drugs, Weatherford police said.

Investigators believe the deaths might be connected to counterfeit Percocet or other fake prescription medications.

Earlier this week, Weatherford police warned parents on social media to monitor prescription medications in the wake of the deaths of a 19-year-old man in his Weatherford home and a

19-year-old woman found dead in a Weatherford parking lot. [...] Determinations on the cause of both deaths are pending, according to the medical examiner's website.

Evidence was collected from both scenes and it has been sent off for analysis, Weatherford police said. Authorities did not say what evidence.

In social media messages, Weatherford police said the deaths could be linked to counterfeit Percocet. That drug is a combination of oxycodone and acetaminophen, according to the American Addiction Centers.

## 18 Covid vaccine: Scammers are flogging fake coronavirus jabs on the dark web for £230

Publication date	2020-12-11
Create date	2020-12-14
Score	4.55
Report id	841777
Category	Vaccine
Quality	Falsified
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: Covid vaccine: Scammers are flogging fake coronavirus jabs on the dark web for £230  
Mirror.co.uk

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 41: Places for report 841777

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Europe	United Kingdom	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	54.75844	-2.69531

Table 42: Drugs for report 841777

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
			J07

Table 43: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
876032	Be warned: COVID-19 vaccine scams are now appearing online, over text, and by email	<a href="#">Link</a>
858369	Authorities sound alarm on counterfeit vaccines	<a href="#">Link</a>
845322	Fake Covid-19 vaccines, remedies flooding dark web: Report	<a href="#">Link</a>
845603	Fake Covid-19 vaccines, remedies-related scams increase exponentially on Darknet: Checkpoint report	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 43: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
845626	Counterfeit Covid-19 vaccines are being offered on the Dark Web	<a href="#">Link</a>
848453	Fake COVID-19 vaccines, remedies flooding dark web: Report	<a href="#">Link</a>
846151	Fake COVID-19 vaccines surge on dark web: Research	<a href="#">Link</a>
854345	Fake Covid-19 vaccines, remedies flooding dark web: Report	<a href="#">Link</a>
852554	Shady COVID-19 'vaccines' for sale on the dark web, \$300 - Business Insider	<a href="#">Link</a>
889935	Dark net vendors tout likely fake COVID-19 vaccines as prices soar – researchers	<a href="#">Link</a>
854133	Fake COVID-19 vaccines surge on dark web: Research	<a href="#">Link</a>
875389	Fake Covid-19 Vaccines, Remedies Flooding Dark Web: Report	<a href="#">Link</a>
846742	Fake coronavirus vaccines flood darknet, sell for \$250	<a href="#">Link</a>
852411	Fake COVID-19 Vaccines are Already Being Sold On-line	<a href="#">Link</a>
845254	Fake covid-19 vaccines proliferating on dark web, says new research	<a href="#">Link</a>
848839	Covid vaccine: Scammers are flogging fake coronavirus jabs on the dark web for £230	<a href="#">Link</a>
847822	Dark web becomes hotspot for fake COVID-19 vaccine: Report	<a href="#">Link</a>
852968	FDA Vaccine Approval Created a Spike in Black Market Listings	<a href="#">Link</a>
848110	Beware of fake vaccines on the darknet	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: [...] Now, experts have warned that scammers are preying on Brits desperate for the vaccine by flogging fake jabs on the dark web.

Researchers from Check Point discovered several Covid vaccine scams adverts, offering the 'opportunity' to purchase Pfizer's vaccine on the dark web.

The adverts feature headlines such as 'available corona virus vaccine \$250', "Say bye bye to COVID19=CHLOROQUINE PHOSPHATE", or "Buy fast. CORONA-VIRUS VACCINE IS OUT NOW".

They insist on payments being made in Bitcoin, which Check Point believes is a way to reduce the risk of sellers being traced. [...] The vendor responded with an asking price of 0.01 BTC (around £135), and claimed that 14 doses were needed for remediation. [...] "One of those ways is via the dark net. We are already seeing a number of vendors advertising the opportunity to buy the coronavirus vaccine on the dark net. [...]"

## 19 Public Notification: Red Spartan 3000 contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17

Publication date	2020-12-17
Create date	2020-12-22
Score	4.28
Report id	850940
Category	Nutritional supplement
Quality	Substandard
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration is advising consumers not to purchase or use Red Spartan 3000, a product promoted and sold for sexual enhancement on various websites, including Amazon.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 44: Places for report 850940

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Table 45: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
850941	Public Notification: Premium OrgaZen 7000 contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that Red Spartan 3000 purchased from Amazon.com contains sildenafil and tadalafil, the active ingredients in the FDA-approved prescription drugs Viagra and Cialis, respectively, used to treat erectile dysfunction. FDA approvals of Viagra and Cialis are restricted to use under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. These undeclared ingredients may interact with nitrates found in some prescription drugs, such as nitroglycerin, and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease often take nitrates. [...]

## 20 Public Notification: 69MODE Blue 69 contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-17
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-22
<b>Score</b>	4.28
<b>Report id</b>	850954
<b>Category</b>	Nutritional supplement
<b>Quality</b>	Substandard
<b>Source</b>	Website(s)
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration is advising consumers not to purchase or use 69MODE Blue 69, a product promoted and sold for sexual enhancement on various websites, including Amazon.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 46: Places for report 850954

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Table 47: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
850955	Public Notification: 3 KO Gold XT contains hidden drug ingredient - 2020-12-17	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that 69MODE Blue 69 purchased from Amazon.com contains sildenafil and tadalafil, the active ingredients in the FDA-approved prescription drugs Viagra and Cialis, respectively, used to treat erectile dysfunction. FDA approvals of Viagra and Cialis are restricted to use under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. These undeclared ingredients may interact with nitrates found in some prescription drugs, such as nitroglycerin, and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease often take nitrates. [...]



## 21 Public Notification: Original White Dragon contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17

Publication date	2020-12-17
Create date	2020-12-22
Score	4.28
Report id	850945
Category	Nutritional supplement
Quality	Substandard
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration is advising consumers not to purchase or use Original White Dragon, a product promoted and sold for sexual enhancement on various websites, including Amazon.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 48: Places for report 850945

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that Original White Dragon purchased from Amazon.com contains sildenafil and tadalafil, the active ingredients in the FDA-approved prescription drugs Viagra and Cialis, respectively, used to treat erectile dysfunction. FDA approvals of Viagra and Cialis are restricted to use under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. These undeclared ingredients may interact with nitrates found in some prescription drugs, such as nitroglycerin, and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease often take nitrates. [...]

## 22 Public Notification: The Super Panther 77k contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17

Publication date	2020-12-17
Create date	2020-12-22
Score	4.28
Report id	851048
Category	Nutritional supplement
Quality	Substandard
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration is advising consumers not to purchase or use The Super Panther 77k, a product promoted and sold for sexual enhancement on various websites, including eBay.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 49: Places for report 851048

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that The Super Panther 77k purchased from eBay.com contains sildenafil and tadalafil, the active ingredients in the FDA-approved prescription drugs Viagra and Cialis, respectively, used to treat erectile dysfunction. FDA approvals of Viagra and Cialis are restricted to use under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. These undeclared ingredients may interact with nitrates found in some prescription drugs, such as nitroglycerin, and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease often take nitrates. [...]

## 23 Public Notification: White Panther contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17

Publication date	2020-12-17
Create date	2020-12-22
Score	4.28
Report id	851046
Category	Nutritional supplement
Quality	Substandard
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration is advising consumers not to purchase or use White Panther, a product promoted and sold for sexual enhancement on various websites, including eBay.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 50: Places for report 851046

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that White Panther purchased from eBay.com contains sildenafil and tadalafil, the active ingredients in the FDA-approved prescription drugs Viagra and Cialis, respectively, used to treat erectile dysfunction. FDA approvals of Viagra and Cialis are restricted to use under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. These undeclared ingredients may interact with nitrates found in some prescription drugs, such as nitroglycerin, and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease often take nitrates. [...]

## 24 Public Notification: Triple Wicked Platinum contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17

Publication date	2020-12-17
Create date	2020-12-22
Score	4.28
Report id	851047
Category	Nutritional supplement
Quality	Substandard
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration is advising consumers not to purchase or use Triple Wicked Platinum, a product promoted and sold for sexual enhancement on various websites, including eBay.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 51: Places for report 851047

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that Triple Wicked Platinum purchased from eBay.com contains sildenafil and tadalafil, the active ingredients in the FDA-approved prescription drugs Viagra and Cialis, respectively, used to treat erectile dysfunction. FDA approvals of Viagra and Cialis are restricted to use under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. These undeclared ingredients may interact with nitrates found in some prescription drugs, such as nitroglycerin, and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease often take nitrates. [...]

## 25 Public Notification: Shogun-X Platinum 7000 contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17

Publication date	2020-12-17
Create date	2020-12-22
Score	4.20
Report id	850937
Category	Nutritional supplement
Quality	Substandard
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration is advising consumers not to purchase or Shogun-X Platinum 7000, a product promoted and sold for sexual enhancement on various websites, including Amazon.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 52: Places for report 850937

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Table 53: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
850938	Public Notification: Shogun-X Black contains hidden drug ingredient - 2020-12-17	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that Shogun-X Platinum 7000 purchased from Amazon.com contains sildenafil and tadalafil, the active ingredients in the FDA-approved prescription drugs Viagra and Cialis, respectively, used to treat erectile dysfunction. FDA approvals of Viagra and Cialis are restricted to use under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. These undeclared ingredients may interact with nitrates found in some prescription drugs, such as nitroglycerin, and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease often take nitrates. [...]

## 26 Public Notification: Rock Steady 72 Hours contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17

Publication date	2020-12-17
Create date	2020-12-22
Score	4.20
Report id	850939
Category	Nutritional supplement
Quality	Substandard
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration is advising consumers not to purchase or use Rock Steady 72 Hours, a product promoted and sold for sexual enhancement on various websites, including Amazon.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 54: Places for report 850939

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that Rock Steady 72 Hours purchased from Amazon.com contains sildenafil and tadalafil, the active ingredients in the FDA-approved prescription drugs Viagra and Cialis, respectively, used to treat erectile dysfunction. FDA approvals of Viagra and Cialis are restricted to use under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. These undeclared ingredients may interact with nitrates found in some prescription drugs, such as nitroglycerin, and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease often take nitrates. [...]

## 27 Public Notification: Thumbs Up 7 White 11K contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17

Publication date	2020-12-17
Create date	2020-12-22
Score	4.20
Report id	850933
Category	Nutritional supplement
Quality	Substandard
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration is advising consumers not to purchase or use Thumbs Up 7 White 11K, a product promoted and sold for sexual enhancement on various websites, including Amazon.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 55: Places for report 850933

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Table 56: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
850934	Public Notification: Thumbs Up 7 Red 70K contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17	<a href="#">Link</a>
850935	Public Notification: Thumbs Up 7 Blue 69K contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17	<a href="#">Link</a>
850936	Public Notification: Thumbs Up 7 Black 25K contains hidden drug ingredient - 2020-12-17	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that Thumbs Up 7 White 11K purchased from Amazon.com contains sildenafil, tadalafil and vardenafil, the active ingredients in the FDA-approved prescription drugs Viagra, Cialis and Levitra, respectively, used to treat erectile dysfunction. FDA approvals of Viagra, Cialis and Levitra are restricted to use under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. These undeclared ingredients may interact with nitrates

found in some prescription drugs, such as nitroglycerin, and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease often take nitrates. [...]



## 28 Public Notification: Kopi Jantan Tradisional Natural Herbs Coffee contains hidden drug ingredient - 2020-12-17

Publication date	2020-12-17
Create date	2020-12-22
Score	4.20
Report id	850947
Category	Nutritional supplement
Quality	Substandard
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration is advising consumers not to purchase or use Kopi Jantan Tradisional Natural Herbs Coffee, a product promoted and sold for sexual enhancement on various websites, including Amazon.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 57: Places for report 850947

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that Kopi Jantan Tradisional Natural Herbs Coffee purchased from Amazon.com contains sildenafil, the active ingredient in Viagra, an FDA-approved prescription drug for erectile dysfunction. FDA approval of Viagra is restricted to use under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. This undeclared ingredient may interact with nitrates found in some prescription drugs, such as nitroglycerin, and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease often take nitrates. [...]

## 29 Public Notification: Blue Panther Extreme 75k contains hidden drug ingredients - 2020-12-17

Publication date	2020-12-17
Create date	2020-12-22
Score	4.20
Report id	851064
Category	Nutritional supplement
Quality	Substandard
Source	Website(s)
Curation	Manually curated
Incident or General	Incident

Snippet: The Food and Drug Administration is advising consumers not to purchase or use Blue Panther Extreme 75k, a product promoted and sold for sexual enhancement on various websites, including eBay.com, and possibly in some retail stores.

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 58: Places for report 851064

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	United States	39.76	-98.5

Notes: [...] FDA laboratory analysis confirmed that Blue Panther Extreme 75k purchased from eBay.com contains sildenafil and tadalafil, the active ingredients in the FDA-approved prescription drugs Viagra and Cialis, respectively, used to treat erectile dysfunction. FDA approvals of Viagra and Cialis are restricted to use under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. These undeclared ingredients may interact with nitrates found in some prescription drugs, such as nitroglycerin, and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease often take nitrates.[...]

### 30 Counterfeit Viagra Pills, Footwear, Belts, Car Emblems and Headphones Worth Over \$32 Million Seized at the LA/Long Beach Seaport

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-17
<b>Create date</b>	2021-01-14
<b>Score</b>	4.03
<b>Report id</b>	850803
<b>Category</b>	Erectile dysfunction medicine
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Seaport
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Counterfeit Viagra Pills, Footwear, Belts, Car Emblems and Headphones Worth Over \$32 Million Seized at the LA/Long Beach Seaport Customs and Border Protection

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 59: Places for report 850803

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Americas	United States	Los Angeles	34.05223	-118.24368

Table 60: Drugs for report 850803

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
sildenafil	Drugs used in erectile dysfunction	urologicals	G04BE03

Table 61: Other Stories

ID	Title	Link
890118	LA customs agents seize \$19m in counterfeit Viagra pills	<a href="#">Link</a>
851468	Authorities seize counterfeit goods at LA, Long Beach port complex	<a href="#">Link</a>

Table 61: Other Stories(continued)

ID	Title	Link
851469	Counterfeit Products in Shipments from China Seized at Port Complex   The Patriot KEIB AM 1150	<a href="#">Link</a>
850959	Counterfeit Products in Shipments from China Seized at Port Complex	<a href="#">Link</a>
853788	\$32 million in fake Viagra, Dior busted by customs officials in LA	<a href="#">Link</a>
861468	\$32 million in fake Viagra, Dior busted by customs officials in LA	<a href="#">Link</a>
852517	Authorities seize \$32M in counterfeit goods at ports, including erectile dysfunction pills	<a href="#">Link</a>
852518	ICE, CBP and LAPD seize counterfeit Viagra pills, footwear, belts, car emblems and headphones worth more than \$32 million at the Los Angeles/Long Beach Seaport	<a href="#">Link</a>
852519	Fake Dior x AJ1s, Beats and Viagra Seized in \$32M USD Customs Bust	<a href="#">Link</a>
852520	Counterfeit Viagra, Accessories, Headphones Worth \$32 Million Seized From 3 Chinese Shipments At LA/Long Beach Seaport	<a href="#">Link</a>
851240	I-Team: Federal officials seize 1 million counterfeit erectile dysfunction pills - KLAS	<a href="#">Link</a>
851503	\$32 million worth of fake Viagra pills, footwear, goods seized at L.A., Long Beach ports	<a href="#">Link</a>
854395	CBP finds \$32M worth of fake Viagra, Air Jordans, other goods	<a href="#">Link</a>
852652	Fake Dior Jordans, Chunky Dunky SBs, Viagra Pills, and More Seized in Customs Bust	<a href="#">Link</a>
856769	\$32M In Fake Designer Apparel, Pills From China Seized	<a href="#">Link</a>
858574	Fake Holiday Merchandise, Toys and Pills Worth \$33M Seized at US Ports	<a href="#">Link</a>
852963	U.S. Customs seized \$32 million in fake Jordan sneakers and other goods	<a href="#">Link</a>
852214	1m fake Viagra pills, designer goods seized in Los Angeles	<a href="#">Link</a>

Notes: U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), in coordination with The Los Angeles Police Department's Commercial Crimes Division, Illicit Pharmaceutical and Counterfeit Unit (IPCU) seized counterfeit products arriving in three containerized cargo shipments from China. The counterfeit items included more than one million erectile dysfunction pills, footwear, belts, purses and headphones in violation of registered and recorded trademarks. If genuine, the seized merchandise would have had an estimated manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP) of \$32,161,194.00.

### 31 Six held for manufacturing fake drugs

<b>Publication date</b>	2020-12-04
<b>Create date</b>	2020-12-07
<b>Score</b>	3.35
<b>Report id</b>	832012
<b>Category</b>	Antibiotic
<b>Quality</b>	Falsified
<b>Source</b>	Clandestine laboratory
<b>Curation</b>	Manually curated
<b>Incident or General</b>	Incident

Snippet: Six held for manufacturing fake drugs Times of India

Click here to see the [Original Article](#)

Table 62: Places for report 832012

Region Name	Country	Location	Latitude	Longitude
Southern Asia	India	Bhagwānpur	29.80465	77.91252

Table 63: Drugs for report 832012

Medicine Name	Medicine Class	Action	ATC Code
	Antibiotics	intestinal antiinfectives	A07AA
	Antibiotics	agents for treatment of hemorrhoids and anal fissures for topical use	C05AB
	Antibiotics	antifungals for topical use	D01AA
	Antibiotics	antiinfectives and anti-septics, excl. combinations with corticosteroids	G01AA
	Antibiotics	antimycotics for systemic use	J02AA
	Antibiotics	drugs for treatment of tuberculosis	J04AB
	Antibiotics	throat preparations	R02AB
	Antibiotics	antiinfectives	S01AA

Notes: A team of drug control department (DCD) on Friday nabbed six men in Roorkee and recovered fake drugs worth over Rs 2 crore and packaging materials from their possession. The DCD has seized a pharma factory at Bhagwanpur near Roorkee where the accused used to manufacture fake medicines. According to DCD, they got a tip off that one Vipul Goel was involved in the manufacturing of fake drugs in Adarsh Nagar locality of Roorkee. "He had kept a large volume of different kinds of fake medicines, mainly antibiotics and packaging materials there. However, he did not have the licence for storing the drugs," MS Rana, drug inspector (Haridwar) told TOI. [...]