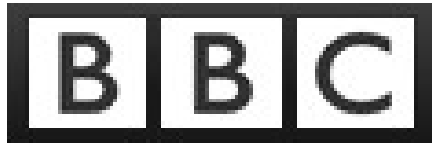


What Others Are Saying About the Worldwide Counterfeit Medicine Threat



“We know this is the tip of the iceberg...We know they are being smuggled into Israel and that they are causing serious damage to people’s health.”

Mickey Arieli, director
Health Ministry Pharmaceutical Crimes Unit
The Jerusalem Post
January 27, 2011



“Those who sell prescription drugs online without a valid prescription are operating illegally, undercutting the laws that were put in place to protect patients, and are thereby ***endangering the public health***. It is a real wake-up call that so many Americans have engaged in this dangerous behavior.”

– Victoria Espinel, coordinator
U.S. Intellectual Property Enforcement
BBC News
December 17, 2010



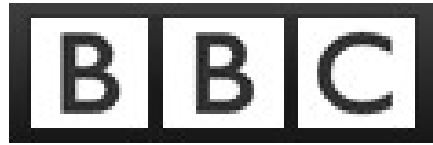
"We need to convince people that ***counterfeiting spells trouble for America, pure and simple.***"

– John Morton, director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
FOX News
December 14, 2010



“The scope of counterfeiting today is such that much of ***what you and I take for granted as secure and healthy may not be.***”

– John Morton, director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Bloomberg
December 14, 2010



“Some genuine [malaria] medicines have lost their potency because of the counterfeiting.”

– Gabriele Zedlmayer, vice president
HP Office of Social Innovation
BBC News
December 14, 2010

The FLINTSHIRE *Chronicle*

“This is considered the ***most serious breach of medicine control – the importation of counterfeit medicines into the system.*** It had far-reaching effects for pharmaceutical companies, patients and the confidence of the general public. The purpose was just greed. To obtain the profits of buying illegal goods cheaply.”

– Andrew Martin, prosecutor
The Flintshire Chronicle
December 6, 2010



“Food and drug administration **departments at all levels should explore effective methods to stop the sale of fake or inferior-quality drugs - especially those advertised and sold on the Internet.**”

– Shao Mingli, head
State Food and Drug Administration

Xinhua

November 23, 2010



“It's not just a teen downloading a song or a movie. It's about an assault on the economic fiber of the entertainment industry. About whether the engine in the aircraft you're flying on contains counterfeit parts. Whether medicine over the Internet is real, is safe. ***It robs industries of jobs, steals American innovation and know-how and fuels organized crime. It affects literally every segment of U.S. manufacturing and production and badly undermines U.S. competitive strength as an economic power.***”

– John Morton, director
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

ABC News

November 17, 2010



“All counterfeiting is criminal, whether it is currency, compact discs or works of art etc, ***but the counterfeiting of medicinal products must be treated as a special issue because it puts people’s health at risk. It is timely that we adopt measures taken by developed countries to stop the manufacture and marketing of counterfeit drugs.***”

– Maithripala Sirisena
Health Minister, Sri Lanka
Daily Mirror
October 19, 2010

THE IRISH TIMES

“The reality is they [counterfeit drugs] are an elaborate and potentially dangerous deception. ***You have no way of knowing what these medicines really contain, where they were made or the effect they might have on your health.***”

– Pat O’Mahony, chief executive
Irish Medicines Board
The Irish Times
October 15, 2010



“It is clear that FDA needs new regulatory tools that provide the authority we need to meet the challenges we face in today's increasing globalized marketplace. And we look forward to working with Congress on legislation that will give FDA the ability to protect Americans from harmful drugs and medical products--and fulfill our fundamental public health mission.”

– Dr. Margaret Hamburg, commissioner
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

CNBC

October 8, 2010

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

“A counterfeit drug has been described as the perfect murder weapon as it is very difficult to *detect...Not only are these drugs a danger for the patient, they contribute to an increasing distrust of the entire healthcare system.*”

– Roger Bate, Legatum fellow
American Enterprise Institute
The Wall Street Journal
October 1, 2010

“In recent years, we have noticed a marked increase in the number of rogue pharmacies, as well an increasing sophistication in their methods...***Rogue pharmacies are bad for our users, for legitimate online pharmacies and for the entire e-commerce industry***—so we are going to keep investing time and money to stop these kinds of harmful practices.”

– Michael Zwibelman, legal counsel
Google
The Official Google Blog
September 21, 2010



“In today's global economy the Internet has become the glue of international commerce -- connecting consumers with a wide-array of products and services worldwide. But it's also become a ***tool for online thieves to sell counterfeit and pirated goods, making hundreds of millions of dollars off of stolen American intellectual property.***”

– U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch, Utah

AFP

September 20, 2010

FINANCIAL TIMES

“Hundreds of millions of dollars in annual revenue generated by the illegal online pharmaceutical business acts as a magnet attracting cybercriminals and catalysing their efforts to attack [US] citizens. Since this illegal business relies on registering thousand of domain names, these actions will put a serious crimp in these businesses and represents a significant step to make us all safe.”

– Patrick Peterson, researcher
Cisco Systems
Financial Times
September 19, 2010

EDMONTON JOURNAL

“Criminals often seek to exploit the most vulnerable of victims --
***but offering fake, unapproved medication to cancer patients
reaches a new low.***”

– Lanny Breuer, Assistant Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Edmonton Journal
August 26, 2010

“The NTS [National Tax Service] detects the smuggled medicine by randomly inspecting some 10 percent of the imported cargo.
The actual amount of illicitly circulated medicine is expected to be much higher.”

– Rep. Lee Ae-joo
Korean Grand National Party
The Korea Herald
August 18, 2010

TheNational

“In general, ***counterfeiting is very bad for innovation*** and very bad for bona fide business. In addition to that, ***there is a risk to consumers. Of course those which are risking health and safety should attract even more attention.***”

– David Boubil
Spokesman, Taxation and Customs Union’s Directorate General
The National (UAE)
August 16, 2010

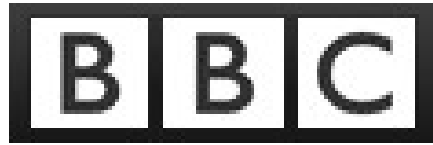
Roll Call

“Even more frightening is the harm dangerously defective counterfeit products can have on consumers. From counterfeit toothpaste laced with anti-freeze to bogus pharmaceuticals colored with highway paint and faulty brake pads made with sawdust, ***counterfeiters won't hesitate to trade your family's health and safety for a quick buck.***”

– Mark T. Esper, executive vice president
U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Global Intellectual Property Center

Roll Call

July 15, 2010



“There is *no such thing as a good counterfeit medicine*. These have been *made in substandard conditions, they contain impurities we don't even know about*. Just because they contain some active ingredient doesn't mean that they're good.”

– Mick Deats, head of enforcement
Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (UK)

BBC News

July 8, 2010



“A mother who buys fake medicine to treat malaria does not know that she is paying for her own death or that of her sick child.”

– Jacques Chirac,
Former President of France
BusinessWeek
July 8, 2010

The Charlotte Observer

“We don't know the full extent of this activity, but in the past decade the federal Food and Drug Administration opened more than 300 criminal drug counterfeiting cases. We need prescription drugs the way paratroopers need parachutes. Both save lives, and bogus parachutes or drugs can be deadly..”

Untold numbers of people have been injured, and deaths have been documented from these spurious products

– David Work, executive director emeritus
N.C. Board of Pharmacy
The Charlotte Observer
June 30, 2010



“Men, women and children are dying because criminal networks are making money from the trafficking of fake medicine. No one knowingly buys a product that could threaten his life or that of one of his loved ones.”

– Jacques Chirac
Former French President
PBS Newshour
June 25, 2010

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

“Whether we're talking about *fake drugs that hurt instead of help* the patient, or knockoff car tires that fall apart at 65 miles an hour causing injury and death, *counterfeits kill.*”

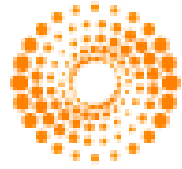
– United States Vice President Joe Biden
The Wall Street Journal
June 23, 2010



“Counterfeit drugs are a scourge and our consumers aren’t safe.

And they don't know what they're buying online many times. I applaud Google, Yahoo and Bing for the steps they've taken in recent weeks to stop selling advertising to illegal Internet pharmacies. But ***we need to go further.*** It's time for others to step up too; it's time to stop supporting ads for drugs sold illegally over the Internet -- and for a simple reason: for the public health of our population.”

– United States Vice President Joe Biden
Eisenhower Executive Office Building
June 22, 2010



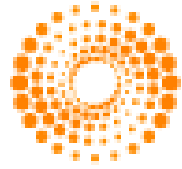
REUTERS

“We have ***more fakes than real drugs in the market.*** In 2007-2008 alone, it rose 596 percent.”

- Christophe Zimmermann, anti-counterfeiting and piracy coordinator
World Customs Organization
Reuters
June 10, 2010

“There are lots of rip-offs. There's still a lot of evidence that **many of the things you buy off the Internet without going through a regular pharmacy might appear cheaper or better but they're usually not and they usually don't work.**”

– Dr. John Morley, director of geriatrics, acting director of endocrinology
St. Louis University
BusinessWeek
May 31, 2010



REUTERS

“Counterfeiting is growing in complexity, scale and geographic scope.
They [counterfeit drugs] put people at risk of harm from medical products that may contain too much, too little, or the wrong active ingredient and/or contain toxic ingredients.”

– Margaret Hamburg, commissioner
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Reuters

May 19, 2010

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

“The public-health consequences of the counterfeit drug trade are serious. These products, often adulterated with road paint and chalk, look identical to the antibiotics they pretend to be. ***Probably thousands of people die every year either because they're poisoned by bad ingredients in counterfeits or because the counterfeit doesn't treat the victim's malady.*** Estimates of substandard drugs reach as high as 30% of all medicines sold in parts of Africa, Asia and Latin America. But the truth is we don't really know how bad the problem has become.”

– Roger Bate, Legatum fellow
American Enterprise Institute
The Wall Street Journal
May 17, 2010

The Miami Herald

“When counterfeit and unapproved drugs come into this country, ***it is compromising the overall drug system that we have.*** We're trying to prevent their release into the U.S. market.”

– David K. Elder, senior official
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
The Miami Herald
May 14, 2010



“You can never be sure that medication bought on the internet is the real thing. Many of these sites are based abroad and are unregulated. ***In 2008, a European report revealed that more than 60% of medicines bought online are fake or substandard.***”

– Dr. Miriam Stoppard, MD, D.Sc, FRCP, DCL
Daily Mirror (UK)
May 5, 2010

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

“It is obvious that through international intelligence operations, the cooperation of western drug companies and Middle Eastern security officials, and the help of alert and brave members of the public, the fatal menace of the fake drug trade can be shut down. *But the broader implications for the region are that **most countries currently have inadequate laws against faking medicines. Until that changes, expect many more people to die from this most odious of trades.***”

– Roger Bate, Legatum fellow
American Enterprise Institute
The Wall Street Journal
April 29, 2010



“There has been a dangerous increase in counterfeit medicines in recent years, with some products infiltrating legal supply chains and *posing a serious threat to patients.*”

- Marisa Matias, Portuguese Member,
European Parliament
The Associated Press
April 27, 2010

Richmond**News**

"Because they're [medicines] counterfeit, they have ***absolutely no standards for production.*** You have no idea what might be in there."

- Sgt. Duncan Pound, Border Integrity Unit,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Richmond News (Ontario)
April 23, 2010

The Gazette

"Most counterfeiters operate outside the United States and often ***attempt to sell their counterfeit products inside the United States to maximize their profits.***"

- Jim Burkhardt, special agent
U.S. Food & Drug Administration
Montreal Gazette
April 21, 2010

The New York Times

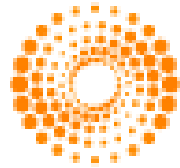
“Sadly, the trouble with counterfeit medicines is not simply the replacement of active pharmaceutical product with a harmless substitute, but the ***danger that the pill actually contains a toxic, and potentially deadly, ingredient***...Multiple deaths have been traced back to counterfeit medicines that originated in China and India. However, the trail of counterfeit medicines often crosses continents and involves many individuals running illegal operations.”

- Howard Zucker, M.D., J.D., Senior Advisor
Division of Global Health and Human Rights
Massachusetts General Hospital
The New York Times
April 19, 2010

TAIPEI TIMES

“These unethical vendors make profits from selling fake drugs. Such behavior not only ***puts the public’s health at risk***, it also further strains the national health insurance system.”

- Wu Dun-yih, Premier of the Republic of China
Taipei Times
March 26, 2010



REUTERS

“It's [counterfeit drug manufacturing] *growing at a rate that's much faster than the rate at which genuine pharmaceuticals are growing.*”

- Ashifi Gogo, co-founder
Sproxil Inc.
Reuters
March 17, 2010

The Gazette

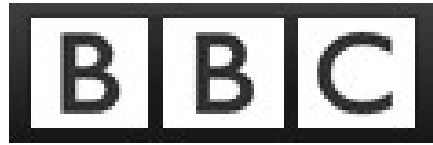
"Counterfeiters are not interested in quality control or consumer safety. They want to make a buck and they see pharmaceuticals as an area they can exploit quite readily for financial profit."

– Superintendent Graham Burnside, Director
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Federal Enforcement Branch
Montreal Gazette
March 3, 2010

Saudi Gazette

“The substances Internet medicine is made from may be authentic, but are very cheap and come from Asian countries like India, Thailand and Indonesia. ***They are produced without any clinical trials or reliable research in bulk within factories, not labs.***”

– Dr. Ahmad Al-Barag, associate professor
Taif University
Saudi Gazette
February 28, 2010



"You really should think twice before you go down ***what looks like the easy route*** [buying drugs online] rather than going to see your doctor."

– Dr. Ian Banks, council for the UK
British Medical Association
BBC News
February 17, 2010



“Counterfeit drugs represent a much greater threat in the developing world, where the system of laws and regulatory oversight do not afford so much protection. Numbers are hard to substantiate and estimates vary, but studies in some countries suggest that between 30 and 50 percent of certain available drugs are actually counterfeit. ***Needless to say, this is devastating to health and safety.***”

– Dr. Margaret A. Hamburg, Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Strategic and International Studies
February 4, 2010