

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

News Summary

Week of October 3, 2017

The ASOP Global Foundation is pleased to provide a bi-weekly newsletter that includes news stories about illegal online pharmacies, counterfeit medicines and efforts to make the Internet safe for consumers worldwide. Feel free to share the newsletters with anyone who you think might benefit from the information they provide.

Global News

Fake Fentanyl Pills Found in 40 States

Sep 29, 2017 - PainNewsNetwork

Counterfeit painkillers and fake medications made with illicit fentanyl have killed Americans in at least 16 states, according to a new report that found the highly dangerous pills have spread from coast to coast. "We have documented the spread of counterfeit pills made with illegal fentanyl throughout 40 states. There is documentation that counterfeits made with fentanyl have killed Americans in at least 16 of those states. The other 24 states probably have deaths attributable to counterfeits made with fentanyl, but because of limited awareness of the problem, those deaths may not have been investigated for counterfeit drugs," said the report by the Partnership for Safe Medicines (PSM) a coalition of pharmacy groups and other healthcare organizations.

[Read More »](#)

Extradition hearings set for Winnipeg men accused in U.S. fake drug case

Sep 29, 2017 - CBC Manitoba

...Winnipeg men accused in U.S. fake drug case **Internet pharmacy** case involves charges of smuggling, conspiracy, international money laundering...

[Read More »](#)

OPINION: Prescription drug importation is dangerous for Alaskans

Sep 29, 2017 - Artic Sounder (AK)

It's rare that Republicans and Democrats see eye-to-eye on healthcare reform. And yet, in early September, Sens. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Bernie Sanders (I-VT) each suggested that Americans be allowed to import prescription drugs from abroad to save money. This isn't the bipartisan healthcare reform our country needs. The ban on foreign drug importation exists to protect Americans from dangerous counterfeit medicines. Lifting the prohibition might save some patients a little money in the short-term, but those savings would come at an enormous cost to public health.

[Read More »](#)

Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies Applauds Results of Operation Pangea X; Urges Continued Vigilance Against Illegal Online Pharmacies Worldwide

Sep 28, 2017 - PRWeb

The Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies (ASOP Global) applauded the results of INTERPOL's Operation Pangea X, the most successful action of its kind to target illegal online pharmacies, but said more must be done to stop the global influx of counterfeit or

substandard prescription medicines. Operation Pangea, now in its tenth year, involved INTERPOL, police, and customs and health regulatory authorities from 123 countries, including the U.S., Canada and the EU. The operation led to the seizure of 25 million illicit and counterfeit medicines worldwide worth more than \$51 million, 400 arrests, removal of 3,584 illegal online pharmacy websites, and suspension of more than 3,000 illegal online advertisements for illicit drugs.
[Read More »](#)

[UN must lead global battle against counterfeit medicines, Congo tells General Assembly](#)

Sep 28, 2017 - Topix

UN must lead global battle against **counterfeit medicines**, Congo tells General Assembly NEW YORK: The Republic of Congo today called for a United...
[Read More »](#)

[FDA's New Drug Tracking System May Be Going Off the Rails](#)

Sep 27, 2017 - Bloomberg [BNA.com](#)

The FDA may be falling behind its schedule for implementing a national drug tracking system intended to prevent counterfeit and substandard medicines from entering the supply chain. Drug distributors and pharmacists told me the implementation of the tracking system has been slow and the Food and Drug Administration is behind on issuing guidance needed by industry. The Drug Supply Chain Security Act (DSCSA) outlines critical steps to build an electronic, interoperable system to identify and trace certain prescription drugs within the U.S. by 2023. The DSCSA is part of the Drug Quality and Security Act (Pub. L. No. 113-54), signed into law in November 2013.
[Read More »](#)

[9/26/17 - Millions of medicines seized in largest INTERPOL operation Illicit online pharmacies targeted \[Governance, Risk & Compliance Monitor Worldwide\]](#)

Sep 26, 2017 - Pharmacy Choice

Operation Pangea X led to a record number of 25 million illicit and **counterfeit medicines** seized worldwide. The action resulted in the launch of 1,058...
[Read More »](#)

[FDA conducts major global operation to protect consumers from potentially dangerous prescription drugs sold online](#)

Sep 25, 2017 - [FDA.gov](#)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration, in partnership with international regulatory and law enforcement agencies, recently took action against more than 500 websites that illegally sell potentially dangerous, unapproved versions of prescription medicines, including opioids, antibiotics and injectable epinephrine products to American consumers.
[Read More »](#)

[Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies \(ASOP Global\) Announces Four New Members](#)

Sep 22, 2017 - PRWeb

Gilead Sciences, Inc., the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), National Council for Behavioral Health (NCBH), and RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association have joined the Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies (ASOP Global), it was announced today. "We are thrilled that four organizations who serve such vastly different patient populations have joined dozens of ASOP Global members committed to helping us raise awareness of and combat illegal online pharmacies and counterfeit medicines, and helping us fulfill our mission – to make the Internet safe for consumers worldwide through education, research, advocacy, and policy," said ASOP Global Executive Director, Libby Baney.
[Read More »](#)

[Drug Safety and Security Is Life and Death](#)

Sep 20, 2017 - Inside Sources

It's easy to take safe, reliable medicines for granted. Picking up drugs from the pharmacy, I hardly give a second thought about their safety and efficacy. But the lull of normalcy masks very real threats to a relatively well-functioning system, including counterfeiting, fraud and powerful narcotics in the wrong hands.
[Read More »](#)