

Is It Safe for States to Import Drugs from Canada? Yes, Here's Why

Drug manufacturing is already global.

80% of active ingredients used in the manufacture of drugs in the US are imported.

40% of prescription drugs sold in the US are produced abroad.*

More than 30 Canadian drug manufacturers are FDA-registered to produce drugs for US markets.**

Safety standards are comparable: Federal regulations already ensure the safety of foreign-produced drugs entering the US market.

EU regulatory inspections of drug manufacturing facilities in Europe meet US safety standards.***

Wholesale drug importation from Canada allows states to access a less expensive global drug market.

A licensed wholesaler can help a state implement a wholesale importation program to ensure product safety



Center for State **Rx** Drug Pricing

*FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg, "The Safety of Prescription Drugs Made Outside the U.S.", The Diane Rehm Show (Feb. 20, 2014). Transcript accessed Sept. 7, 2017. <https://dianerehm.org/shows/2014-02-20/safety-prescription-drugs-made-outside-us>.

**US Food and Drug Administration Database, "Drug Establishments Current Registration Site", Accessed Sept. 7, 2017. <https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/drls/default.cfm>

***FDA press release, "Mutual Recognition promises new framework for pharmaceutical inspections for United States and European Union", (Mar. 2, 2017). Accessed Sept. 7, 2017. <https://www.fda.gov/newsevents/newsroom/pressannouncements/ucm544357.htm>