

China Supplies The U.S. With 97% Of All Antibiotics & Most Other Drugs

The coronavirus has shed light on a Chinese monopoly on U.S. medical supplies and prescription drugs. China sells the United States an estimated 97% of all antibiotics used and 80% of the active pharmaceutical ingredients needed to produce drugs.

If China shuts the door on exports of medicines and the ingredients to make them, within a couple of months our pharmacies would be empty. Our healthcare system would cease to function. That's how dependent we are."

Gibson, Law Enforcement Today, Feb, 2020

It's not the first time the issue has come up. Rosemary Gibson is the co-author of *China Rx: Exposing the Risks of America's Dependence on China for Medicine*. He has been sounding the alarm on national media for some time.

We can't make penicillin anymore. The last penicillin plant in the United States closed in 2004."

Gibson, NBC News Sept, 2019

Medicines can be used as a weapon of war against the United States. China Rx: Exposing the Risks of America's Dependence on China for Medicine. Supplies can be withheld. Medicines can be made with lethal contaminants or sold without any real medicine in them, rendering them ineffective."

Gibson, Politico, Dec 2019

The FDA says it is better monitoring the drug supply for potential shortages, including 20 products that may be at risk due to the current pandemic, which is raising concerns about our convoluted pharmaceutical supply chain.

Coronavirus highlights a growing vulnerability: Not only are many medications used in the United States manufactured overseas but critical ingredients – and the chemicals used to make them – also are overwhelmingly made in China. As much as 90 percent of drugs sold in Americans are generic. Most of the generic drugs produced outside of China use ingredients that come from China. The supply chain is so complicated and obscure that it's difficult to predict where critical shortages could emerge.

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