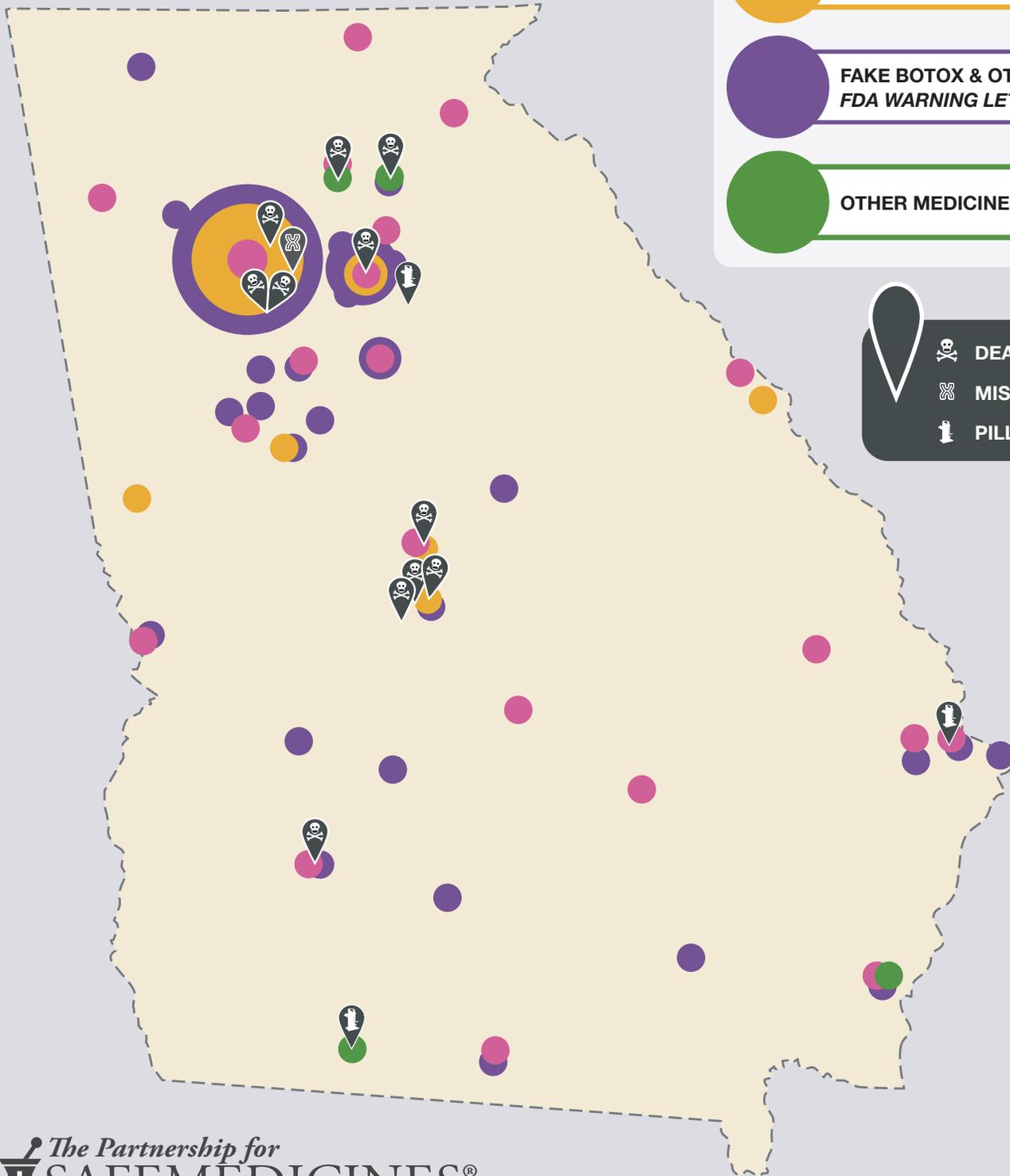


THE DEADLY COUNTERFEIT DRUG TRADE THRIVES IN GEORGIA

Counterfeit pills, intravenous and injectable medications have injured and even killed Georgia patients.



FAKE CANCER DRUGS
FDA WARNING LETTERS

FAKE FENTANYL PILLS

FAKE BOTOX & OTHER TREATMENTS
FDA WARNING LETTERS

OTHER MEDICINES & TREATMENTS

DEATHS
MISBRANDED DRUGS
PILL PRESS SEIZURES



The Deadly Counterfeit Drug Trade Thrives in Georgia

Counterfeit drug smugglers lined their own pockets by infiltrating the prescription drug supply and illicit opioid market to the detriment of Georgia's residents.

Unregulated prescription drugs—particularly counterfeit Avastin and fake Botox—have threatened Georgia. Between 2012 and 2016, 115 different medical practices in Georgia were among more than 3,000 nationwide that were implicated in various black-market supply chains associated with counterfeit cancer treatments and other therapies.¹ The FDA warned 26 of those medical practices that they may have purchased counterfeit cancer treatments from unlicensed distributors. Families of cancer patients who died despite being treated will never be sure whether their loved one's lives were cut short by fake medicines smuggled into the country by profiteers.²

Since 2015, the country has seen a terrible upsurge in counterfeit prescription pills laced with fentanyl or its deadlier variants. Even a fraction of a single pill can mean death in less than 30 minutes of ingesting it. Georgia saw its first two deaths as a result of these pills in February 2015,³ escalating to two waves of overdoses and deaths in the summer of 2017.⁴ In late 2017, the DEA shut down a Georgia-based pill manufacturing operation that had sold as many as 200,000 pills a month online,⁵ and counterfeit pill trafficking operations have been shut down in Peachtree Corners, Roswell, Acworth, Atlanta, and Cherokee County since then.⁶ Still, the deaths continue. Many more Georgia residents have likely died of fentanyl poisoning after encountering these pills because not all deaths are investigated for counterfeit drugs, and not all families publicly share their losses. Others may never know their child died because the Xanax they took contained fentanyl instead of alprazolam.

The only way to protect Americans from these dangers is to protect and strengthen the closed U.S. supply chain, which holds drug manufacturers accountable for safety regulations.

To see a list of counterfeit drug incidents in Georgia between 2012 and 2018, please consult our [2018 Infosheet](#).

FOOTNOTES

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