



FDA Fishy Freight Report: October 2025

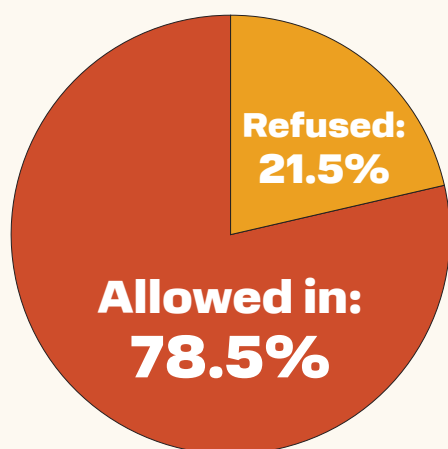
We found cancer drugs masquerading as antibiotics, semaglutide supposedly manufactured at a home hardware store, and over 120 kilograms of tirzepatide from unregistered facilities marked for compounding. Most of the shipments made it through U.S. ports of entry.

OUR RESEARCH PROCESS

We analyzed large-scale commercial imports of semaglutide, tirzepatide, apixaban, pembrolizumab, and antibiotics from March to August of 2025, using the FDA's Imports Database, list of registered drug establishments, and Product Code Builder; the Import Trade Auxiliary Communications System (ITACS); Google Maps; and manufacturer websites.

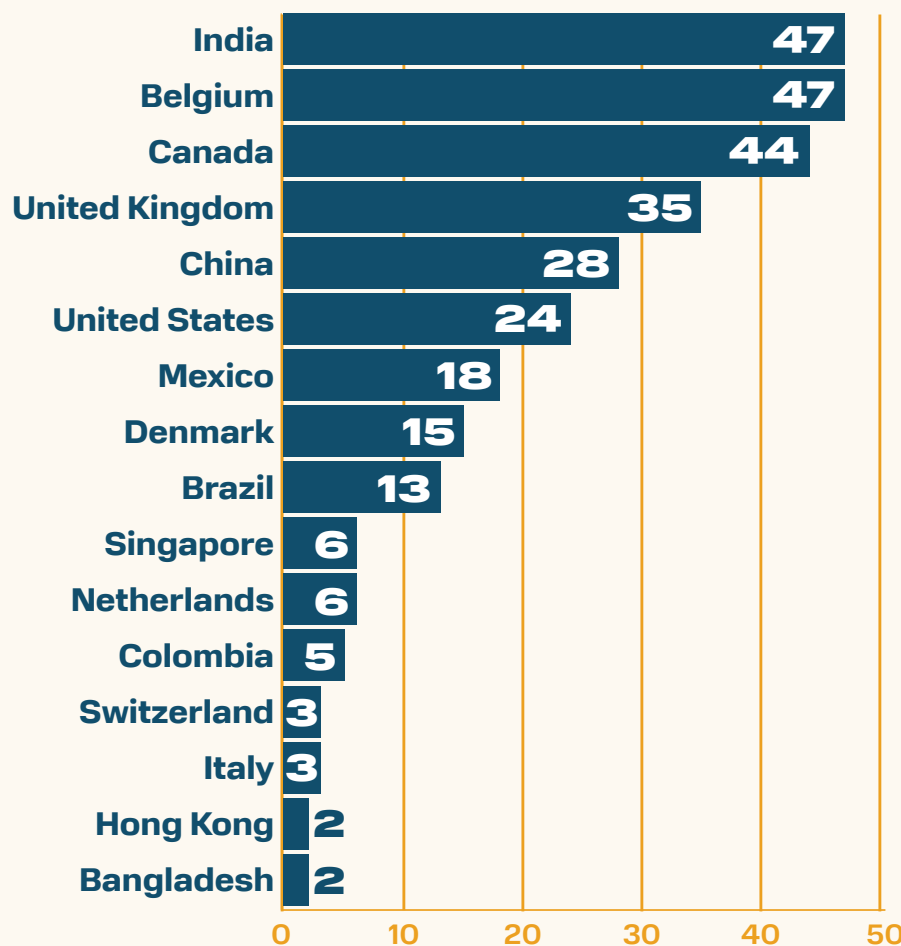
WHAT WE FOUND

- 1 How many shipments that were manufactured in facilities unknown to the FDA were refused, and how many got through?



- 2 Which countries produced these unregistered products (according to shipping manifests)?

Manufacturer country of semaglutide and tirzepatide from unregistered facilities from March–August 2025



Countries with just one shipment: Albania, Bahamas, Bermuda, Chile, France, Germany, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Pakistan, Poland, Romania

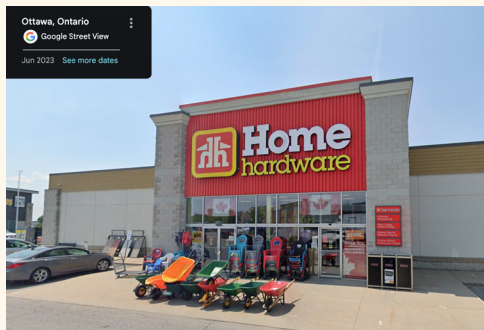
“FOR COMPOUNDING”

The most concerning entries between March and August 2025 involved eight shipments totaling over 120 kilograms of tirzepatide that were explicitly labeled for compounding. **All of the shipments originated in unregistered facilities in China.**

For perspective, this represents **more than 48 million 2.5mg starting doses of Mounjaro equivalent. Six of these shipments, totalling ~95.5kg, were released into the U.S. supply chain, with only two refused.**

UNREGISTERED FACILITIES

The most common type of suspicious shipments we see are relatively small shipments from addresses that would never manufacture drugs, and are not registered as facilities with the FDA.



A semaglutide shipment in March marked “for personal use” listed Brindlewood Home Hardware in Canada as its manufacturer.

In July, a shipment of 10 pieces of Rybelsus claimed to come from Dr. Nanduri’s Homeopathic Clinic in India.



REPEAT SHIPMENTS



An ordinary suburban address tied to a small IT consultancy was linked to 11 separate shipments claiming to be from Eli Lilly. The FDA refused them all, but the repeated attempts show the scale of fraudulent misrepresentation.

When a shipment is refused, scammers can get it back and re-ship it through another port hoping to evade the FDA on a second try. PSM has recently asked Congress to give FDA destruction authority to stop this behavior.

CODE FRAUD

We continuously find product code fraud, mislabeling one “high-risk” drug as a “low-risk” drug. **Antibiotics are an attractive cover for oncology or transplant medicines.** We suspect scammers think they get less scrutiny for inspectors. Among these, we found:



Chemotherapy drugs, including temsirolimus for advanced kidney cancer, three shipments of azacitidine to treat blood cancers, and four shipments of 5-azacytidine to treat leukemia (SHIPMENT IDS: TEMSIROLIMUS: 231-4144827-1/11/1; AZACITIDINE: 799-7374209-2/12/1, 799-7380676-4/12/1, 799-7414073-4/12/1; 5-AZACYTIDINE: 799-7374291-0/12/1, 799-9734889-2/13/1, 799-9753233-9/13/1, 799-0004861-4/10003/1)



Psychiatric drugs, like Zonalta to treat bipolar disorder and the Schedule I controlled substance Lysergic acid (LSD), (SHIPMENT IDS: SCS-1314515-1/32/1, SCS-9536828-2/32/1)



Fenofibrate, a **cholesterol medication** (SHIPMENT ID: 799-9084120-8/33/1)



Rapamycin, an **immunosuppressant** commonly prescribed for organ transplant patients (SHIPMENT ID: 336-5726740-3/62/1)

To see more information about the problem of fishy medical freight shipments, see our homepage for this project at www.safemedicines.org/pharma-borders.