

2004N-0115 - Prescription Drug Importation; Public Meeting

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Submitter : Mr. Tad Fisher

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Organization : Florida Academy of Family Physicians

Health Professional

Category :

Issue Areas/Comments

GENERAL

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Florida family physicians are concerned about the importation of drugs outside the US for the safety of their patients. If the federal government is going to authorize any importation of prescription medications it must establish a safety inspection program to ensure US patients receive the appropriate prescribed medication.

Family physicians are concerned about access to less costly prescription medications for the health and well being of their patients. However, safety and authenticity of medications must be the essential concern before any market changes occur for the protection of all patients receiving care in the US.

Agencies

25. What protections do other countries have in place to ensure the safety of drugs that are exported or transshipped from their country to the United States?

None of which I am aware. Health Canada, for example, has publicly declared that they "cannot and will not" guarantee the quality and safety of drug products imported into Canada for export to the US.