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# EU regulators say no public health risk at Ranbaxy plant

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WASHINGTON

European regulators on Thursday said they have completed their assessment of manufacturing violations at **Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd**'s facility in Toansa, Punjab, and although deficiencies were found, they pose no risk to public health.

The regulators said they were satisfied by corrective measures put in place by the pharmaceutical company and reinstated a good manufacturing practices certificate, that was suspended in January.

The move stands in stark contrast to the response of US regulators to the deficiencies found at the plant. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) barred Ranbaxy in January from making and selling pharmaceutical ingredients from the Toansa facility in Punjab "to prevent substandard quality products from reaching consumers in the US". Ranbaxy is in the process of being acquired by India-based **Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd** for $3.2 billion. In March, the FDA banned imports from Sun's plant at Karkhadi.

The US ban on products from the Toansa facility, part of a broader crackdown by the US regulator on substandard generic drugs from India, followed an FDA inspection completed on 11 January. Toansa became the fourth Ranbaxy plant whose products were barred from the United States. Following the FDA's inspection, European regulators sent a team of inspectors from Germany, Ireland and the United Kingdom, who were joined by inspectors from Switzerland and Australia, the European Medicines Agency (EMA) said in a statement.

"The inspection team concluded that there was no evidence that any medicines on the EU market that have an active pharmaceutical ingredient manufactured in Toansa were of unacceptable quality or presented a risk to the health of patients taking them," the agency said.

Company