

USFDA bans imports from Canadian drugmaker Apotex's India plant

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THE US Food and Drug Administration has banned imports from Canadian drugmaker Apotex Inc's plant in India for not complying with quality standards, the latest in a series of sanctions against medicines produced in India.

Drugs made at the plant in Bangalore, will be detained without physical examination because the factory did not meet the FDA's manufacturing practices, the agency said on Wednesday. The ban excludes Riluzole, a drug used to treat amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. The ban on Apotex's factory comes after manufacturing plants of top Indian drugmakers like Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd, Wockhardt Ltd and Sun Pharmaceutical Industries were barred from exporting to the US due to quality concerns.

The FDA has stepped up scrutiny of medicines made in India, which supplies about 40 per cent of generic and over-the-counter drugs to the US.

Regulatory.