

# Supply Chain Challenges and Risk Management

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**21<sup>st</sup> April 2009**

# Supply Chain - Some Useful Guidance

## Vendors – APIs and Excipients

- cGMP – Annex 8
- cGMP Chapter 7
- ICH Q7 (Actives)
- ICH Q9 (Risk Mgt.)
- PS 9100 (Excipients)
- FDA Good Importers Guidance (draft)
- FDA RiskMap

## FDF Manufacturers

- Full GMPs
- ICH Q9 / ICH Q10
- MHRA Risk based compliance reports
- EMEA/192632/2006 – EU Risk Mgt Plan

## Post Marketing Vigilance, GDP

- EU / TGA VOL 9a Pharmacovigilance Risk Mgt
- ICH Q9 (Risk Mgt.)
- Product review (GMPs Ch 1)



# Global Drug Supply Landscape

- > 80% of all APIs sourced outside USA. (43% China, 39% India)
- Would be greater than 80% for Australia
- “Some generic supply lines have up to 15 different facilities in drug applications” – Janet Woodcock FDA
- Since 1992 - 400% increase in “foreign” drug manufacturers
- India has had a 25 times increase in imports to USA



# Sharpened Focus by Regulators

- Trigger events:
  - Diethylene glycol excipient contaminated
  - OSCS contaminated Heparin (over 80 deaths)
  - Melamine in milk products
  - Lead paint in childrens toys
- FDA response:
  - Wider inspection co-operation with EMEA and TGA for API plants
  - FDA Globalisation Act 2008 (draft)
  - FDA Initiative – Beyond our Borders
  - Permanent overseas FDA Offices (China and India)
    - Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou
    - 8 FDA officials



## Some other recent concerns

- Internet based mail drug imports approx. 10mill / month in USA ... estimated that many are counterfeited
- Asbestos in talc powder – Sth Korea 1200 products recalled
- Heparin OSCS issue re-surfaced in Ireland March 09
- Ranbaxy – stability data integrity (in dispute)

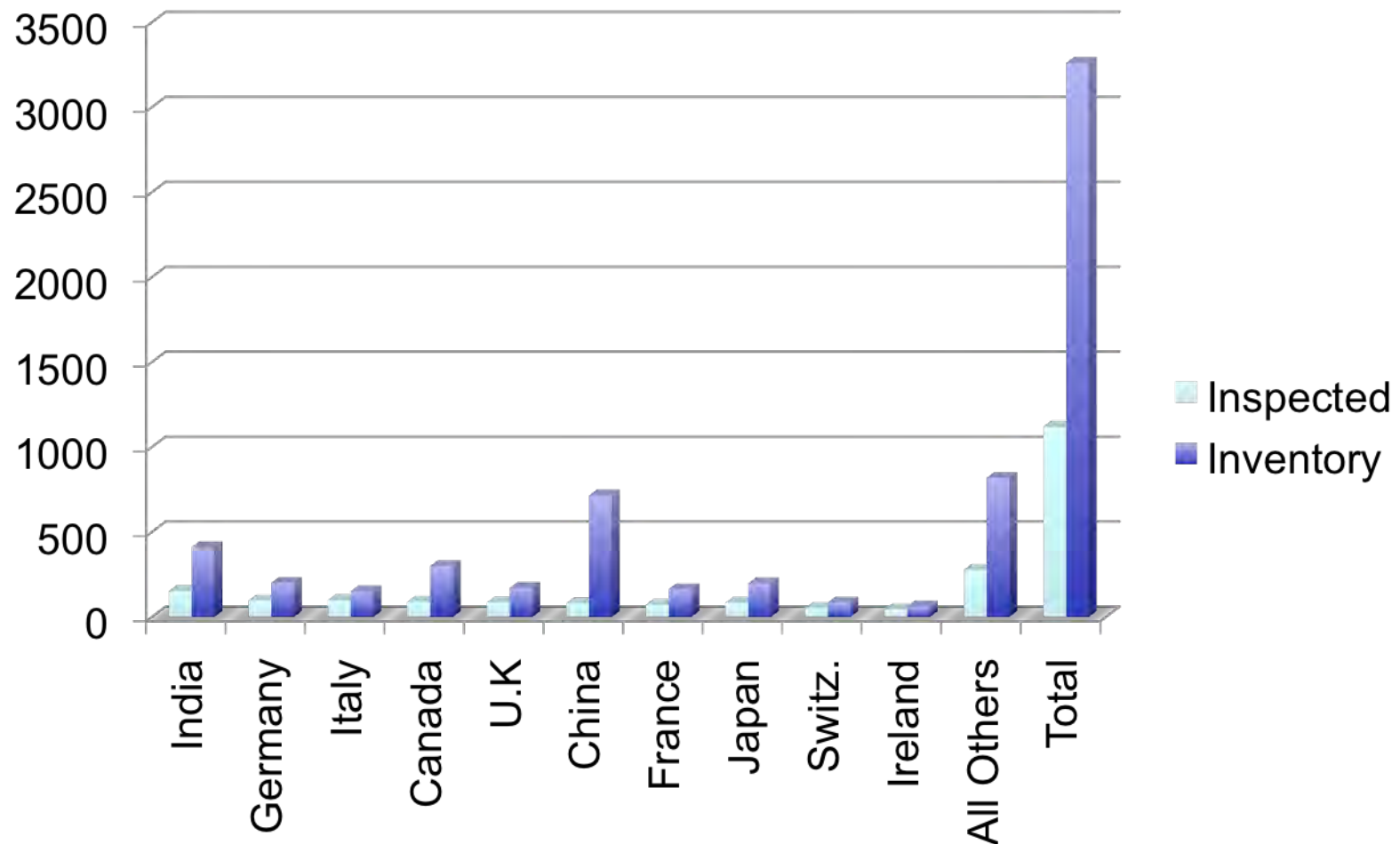


# Different Agency Approaches to APIs

- TGA:
  - GMP Licensing of API manufacturers
  - TGA inspection to ICH Q7
  - FDF Manufacturers expected to have vendor assurance programs in place
- Europe:
  - ICH Q7 compliance responsibility of the FDF manufacturer
  - Qualified Person or agent must conduct GMP audit
- FDA:
  - Drug Master File (DMF)
  - Audits are product specific via (A)NDA

# FDA Foreign Inspection 2002 -2007

(# firms estimated between 3249 and 6800)





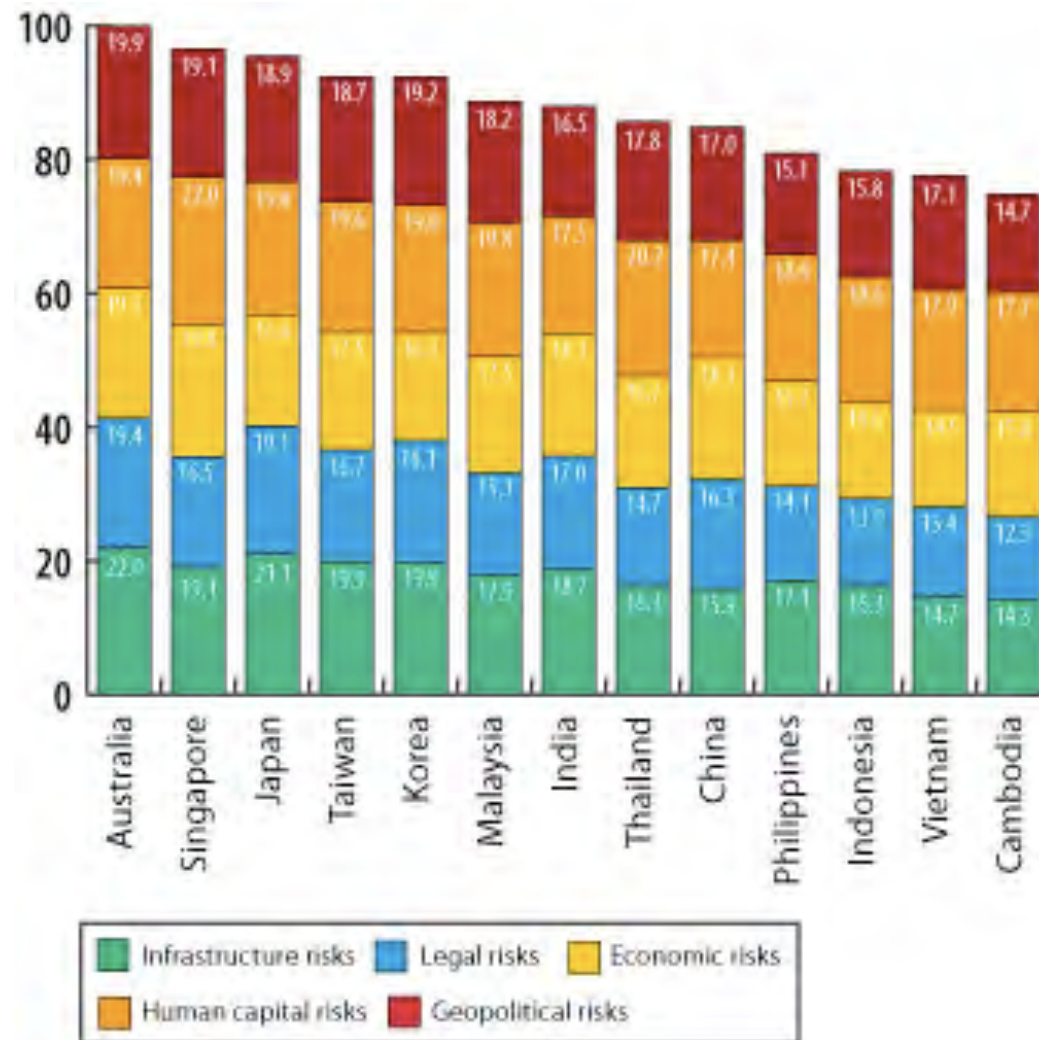
# FDA Globalisation Act 2008

## (Proposed)

- Manufacturers of drugs and drug ingredients to test for contaminants (purity and identity)
- Restricted entry of products without detailed documentation
- Drug labels to identify the source of API and its place of manufacture.
- New enforcement provisions:
  - Extensive fines/prosecution for supplying misleading or false data to FDA (\$100K - \$150K each offense)
- Mandatory supply chain risk assessment reports for each Rx drug product to be made available to FDA.

# Supply Chain - Country Risk Factors

(PWC Wider Risk Rating Asian Countries)





## Moves to strengthen the supply chain

- Strengthen monographs eg glycerin, heparin
- Agency co-operation and foreign offices.  
Collaboration between FDA, EMEA and TGA (APIs)
- Mandatory 2 year GMP inspections by FDA ?
- Test and verify/certify drug purity and identity
- Drug manufacturers required to develop risk assessment of the supply line - and presumably a risk control plan
- Manufacturers to take more responsibility
- Excipient oversight ? Extremely challenging !

# Possible Supply Chain Risk Factors

## Patient Risk Factor

5. Parenteral/ Sterile / Biotech
4. Rx
3. OTC
2. Complementary
1. Excipient (???)

## Supplier Quality History

5. Known poor quality
4. Unknown history / New vendor
3. Known quality – OK
2. >10 batches, all OK
1. Long good supply history

## Supplier Profile and Rating

5. No site assessment
4. No International GMP licenses
3. International GMP audits
2. QA reviewed
1. QA vendor audited >1 cycle

# Sorting Risks – where to input resources ?

|                         |   | History x Profile |   |   |    |    |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------|---|---|----|----|
|                         |   | 1                 | 4 | 9 | 16 | 25 |
| Patient Risk / Severity | 5 |                   |   |   |    |    |
|                         | 4 |                   |   |   |    |    |
|                         | 3 |                   |   |   |    |    |
|                         | 2 |                   |   |   |    |    |
|                         | 1 |                   |   |   |    |    |



## Some practical tips on managing Supply Chain risk

- Do not rely on documents alone
- Quality surveys provide only secondary information
- Have selection criteria based **on risk, not price**
- If possible go to site and audit thoroughly where there is any risk – conduct due diligence
- Should have a strong quality agreement – with penalties
- Conduct thorough receipt testing until satisfied
- Agree mechanisms for problem resolution in the quality agreement
- Insist on a strong problem resolution / CAPA culture



# The difficult case of excipients

- PQG (UK) PS9100 guidance is helpful
- Excipient risks are driven by:
  - Dose form in which used (parenteral, oral etc...)
  - Function of the excipient
  - Inherent toxicity and quantity used in product
  - Potential for manufacturing cross contamination
- Practicality of auditing – may be problematic
- Which standards would apply in audit situation ?
  - ISO 9001 / HACCP
  - Intermediate/basic GMPs
  - ICH Q7

# China - Supply Chain

**Figure 1** Growth of Total Output Value of China's Pharmaceutical Industry  
(composed of seven sub-industries, at current prices)





# What is the value of a Government GMP Certificate ?

- GMP Manufacturers Certificate valid for 5 years
- Audit team could be “good” or “bad” – impossible to be sure
- Local inspector(s) may expect co-operation from the manufacturers
- Length of audit is not a good indicator
- Non-conformances sometimes do not make sense to a westerner – (at least the English version)



# Typical gaps and deficiencies

- Quality Systems often = more testing
- Facilities sub-standard finishes
- Validation often superficial
- Change control absent or document change only
- Failure investigation / CAPA superficial
- Limited risk management practiced
- Vendor management absent
- Feedback / Vigilance systems poor or absent



# Compliance audit history - What to look for

- “Show” vs “Shadow” Manufacturing facilities
- International certification – TGA, EU, FDA etc.
- Recent audits by an international audit team
- Length of the audit (superficial vs extensive)
- Audit reports – did the group look beyond the quality manual and SOPs ?
- Did the lead auditor have international experience ?



## A picture speaks a 1000 words

- Spend as much audit time in the factory as possible.
- Seeing is believing !
- Take a production record to the walk through
- Compare the production record to actual practices
- Walk the process(es) top to bottom
- Review in-process test stations
- Check what happens to rejects and reworks



# What to expect when assessing documents

- Approx. 10 - 20% of the documents in English, usually with a Mandarin translation.
- Some key SOPs will be translated (maybe for the purpose of audit)
- Most quality documents/records are not accessible without a translator
- Technical files and foreign registrations should be in English
- A challenge to get the right information
- This significantly slows the audit down!



QUALITY POLICY 质量方针

## 精益求精 出类拔萃

金马医疗致力于在医疗诊断器械领域，  
成为专业用家和企业买家的首选供应商。  
金马医疗的每一位员工都要奉献全力完善运作流程，  
遵从既定工作指引，追求零失误的服务和产品，  
务求以出类拔萃的品质和精益求精的质量管理，  
满足并超越顾客期望。



## Example – critical device components

- Contract with parent company in Taiwan
- Parent sub-lets to sister company in China
- Chinese company sublets contract to local firm(s)
- All component marking indicate the product is supplied from Taiwan
- All documents/ test reports marked from Taiwan
- Impossible to fully trace the supply chain
- Situation would not be known without audit



## Case Study – Quality Control

- Product quality delivered by intensive (and often 100%) inspection
- Almost all QC work is manual
- Quality management approach is basic – eg. no CAPA and no internal audit program
- Vendor defects are inspected out
  - > 20 - 50%+ component defects are common – are 100% sorted and rejected
  - Vendors are unreliable and indifferent to quality standards
  - Difficult to return faulty items



## Case Study - Validation

- Understand the jargon – IQ/OQ/PQ
- Protocols contain little challenge and are minimal eg. “vendor provided certificate for IQ”
- Process validation not conducted – line is 100% inspected
- No risk assessment is applied
- Computer systems validation absent
- OK for Class CM but not for OTC or Rx products



# CAPA and Improvement Processes

- All the right words are in SOPs
- Focus is generally on correction and, occasionally, corrective action
- Preventive action not practiced well – weakness in RCA .... Poor close out on problems
- CAPAs generally not systematically analysed
- Risk analysis not applied to CAPA

**Extremely challenging area ! But improving**





## In Summary

- Vendor Quality is very variable = variable risk
- Do not rely on paperwork/documents alone
- MUST conduct due diligence BEFORE letting contracts
- Be very clear on quality standards in “Technical Agreements”
- Be prepared to visit / audit regularly
- Develop the relationship

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PDA April 09 SW

Thanks for Listening

Any Questions ?