

APSMI NEWSLETTER

February 2023

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ASIA-PACIFIC SELF-MEDICATION INDUSTRY
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Index

a. Global Health Security (GHS) Index

The Johns Hopkins Center of the United States released the Global Health Security (GHS) index. According to the report, Thailand ranked fifth among 195 countries and regions around the world. It was particularly highly evaluated in terms of disease detection and treatment.

Among the GHS comprehensive indexes, "prevention" and "health" ranked 10th in the world, while "discovery" and "treatment" ranked first and second respectively. Among the top ranking countries/regions, Thailand is also characterized by its low per capita medical expenses, which was US\$296 (approximately 38,000 yen). South Korea, which is ranked ninth overall, will receive US\$3,406.

The scale of medical tourism in Thailand will reach 19 billion baht (approximately 73.8 billion yen) in 2022, 80% of the scale of 2019. It is expected to grow to 25 billion baht this year.

The full report is available at the following URL:

https://www.ghsindex.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/2021_GHSindexFullReport_Final.pdf

2. Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)

Transparency International (TI), a non-governmental organization (NGO) that monitors global corruption released the report of "2022 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)" on 30th January 2023.

Singapore ranked 4th among 180 countries/regions.

The full report is available at the following URL:

<https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2022>

3. Democracy Index 2022

The Economist Intelligence Unit Limited.(EIU) released the report of "Democracy Index 2022 - Frontline Democracy and the battle for Ukraine".

Chinese Taipei ranked 10th among 167 countries and regions (Best among Asian countries and regions).

The full report is available at the following URL (Registration is required for downloading):

<https://www.eiu.com/n/campaigns/democracy-index-2022/>



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World Topics

1. OTC Naloxone (USA)

US FDA advisory committee on 15 February 2023 (Wednesday) voted unanimously to recommend that the agency allow a nasal spray version of naloxone, from Emergent Bio-solutions, to be sold over the counter.

Many articles are available at WEB site:

[Narcan: FDA considers making Narcan opioid overdose antidote available without prescription | CNN](#)

[FDA panel recommends approval of over-the-counter naloxone \(statnews.com\)](#)

[Narcan Is Safe to Sell Over the Counter, Advisers to the FDA Conclude - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](#)

[FDA panel backs allowing a naloxone spray to be sold over-the-counter - CBS News](#)

[Opioid overdose treatment Narcan recommended by FDA advisors for over-the-counter use \(cnbc.com\)](#)

[FDA panel recommends making opioid overdose antidote available over the counter \(nbcnews.com\)](#)

Regarding the matter, “External Review of FDA Regulation of Opioid Analgesics (Final Report)” is available at the following URL:

[External Review of FDA Regulation of Opioid Analgesics Final Report 2023](#)

2. Safety review of pseudoephedrine-containing medicines (Europe)

On 10th February 2023, EMA’s safety committee (PRAC) has started a review of medicines containing pseudoephedrine following concerns about the risk of posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome (PRES) and reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome (RCVS), conditions affecting blood vessels in the brain. Pseudoephedrine is taken by mouth and is used alone or in combination with other medicines to treat nasal congestion (a blocked nose) resulting from a cold, flu or allergy.



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Detail information is available at the following URL:

<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/medicines/human/referrals/pseudoephedrine-containing-medicinal-products>

3. TGA's interim decision on scheduling of Paracetamol (Australia)

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) published an interim decision to reduce the maximum pack sizes for various paracetamol products on 3rd February 2023.

CHP Australia released a welcome statement on the decision.

TGA's Media release is available at the following URL:

<https://www.tga.gov.au/news/media-releases/tga-makes-interim-decision-reduce-maximum-paracetamol-pack-sizes>

CHP Australia's statement is available at the following URL:

<https://www.chpastralia.com.au/News-and-Events/Latest-News/2023/CHP-Australia-statement-on-the-TGAs-interim-decision-on-scheduling-of-Paracetamol->

4. Business Climate Survey 2023 (Chinese Taipei)

AmCham Taiwan released a report "Business Climate Survey 2023".

The report is available at the following URL:

<https://amcham.com.tw/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/AmCham-Taiwan-2023-Business-Climate-Survey.pdf>

5. The 6th India – Japan Medical Products Regulatory Symposium

The 6th India – Japan Medical Products Symposium (hosted by MoHFW & CDSCO, India and MHLW & PMDA, Japan) was held as a virtual meeting on 1st February 2023.

Final Program and all the presentation materials are available at the following URL:

<https://www.pmda.go.jp/int-activities/symposia/0132.html>

6. Counterfeit Products in India (India)

ASPA & CRISIL released a report regarding state of counterfeiting in India.

According to the report, the ratio of counterfeit is 20% for Pharmaceuticals.

The report is available at the following URL:

[Authentication Solution Provider's Association | Counterfeiting In India | Anticounterfeit awareness \(aspaglobal.com\)](#)