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FDA's Overseas Offices Met with Caution

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration opened field offices internationally after several scares over tainted drugs abroad, yet critics say the increased scrutiny feels like a crackdown. NPR's Raymond Thibodeaux discusses implications surrounding the agency's global expansion strategy.

Listen to the audio discussion [here](#).

Medical Devices Face New Scrutiny from FDA

The Food and Drug Administration asked several medical-device makers to justify their products' safety and effectiveness, as part of a move to require tougher evidence standards before products can be sold.

View the full story [here](#).

House Approves Plan to Give FDA Regulatory Power Over Tobacco

The House of Representatives on Thursday approved sweeping legislation to bring tobacco under control of the Food and Drug Administration for the first time. Under the bill, the Food and Drug Administration would be able to regulate, but not ban, cigarettes and other tobacco products. The FDA could make ingredients public, ban flavoring and prohibit marketing campaigns.

View the full story [here](#).

Senate Introduces Drug and Device Accountability Act of 2009

Senator Chuck Grassley recently introduced legislation with Senator Ted Kennedy to give the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) more resources to inspect domestic and foreign-made prescription drugs and devices.

The bipartisan legislation also responds to concerns about medical device reviews by the FDA and calls for an Institute of Medicine study to examine the FDA's system for approving devices.

Read the full announcement [here](#).

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