

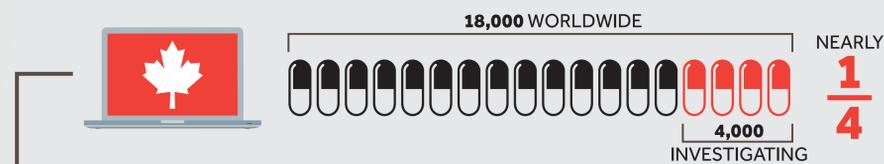
IS IT SAFE FOR AMERICANS TO ORDER LIFE-SAVING MEDICINE FROM ONLINE PHARMACIES OVERSEAS?

No. Like the United States, other countries are plagued by illegal Internet "pharmacies," endangering patients globally. More must be done.

The G8 Report & Counterfeit Drug Incidents in Member Countries¹:

CANADA

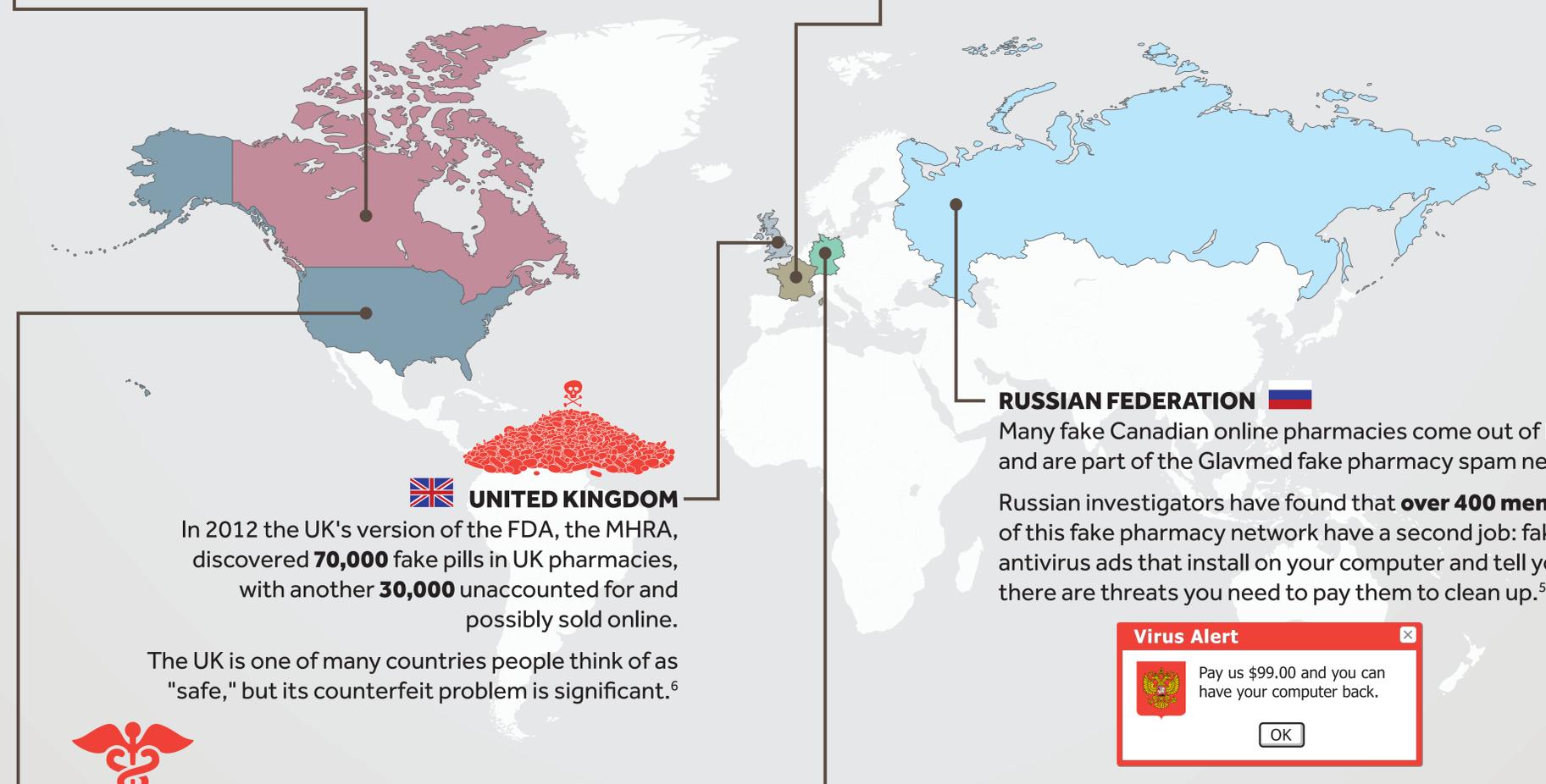
Thousands of websites around the world claim to be Canadian pharmacies, but they aren't Canadian nor are they pharmacies. Last year a global crackdown identified **4,000** of them under investigation by Canadian law enforcement.²



FRANCE

1.2 MILLION

In 2012, counterfeiters got so brazen that they tried to smuggle **1.2 million** fake aspirin into France in a shipment of tea.³



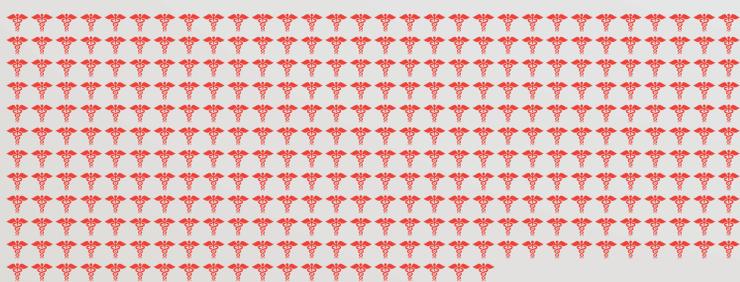
UNITED KINGDOM

In 2012 the UK's version of the FDA, the MHRA, discovered **70,000** fake pills in UK pharmacies, with another **30,000** unaccounted for and possibly sold online.

The UK is one of many countries people think of as "safe," but its counterfeit problem is significant.⁶



UNITED STATES



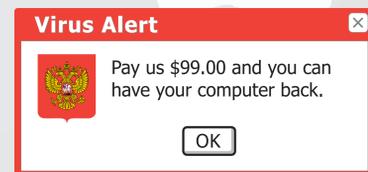
These drugs are all finding their way into the United States. **Over 350 US doctors** received warnings in 2012 about doing business with counterfeit drug suppliers specializing in fake cancer drugs, Botox, and osteoporosis medication.⁷



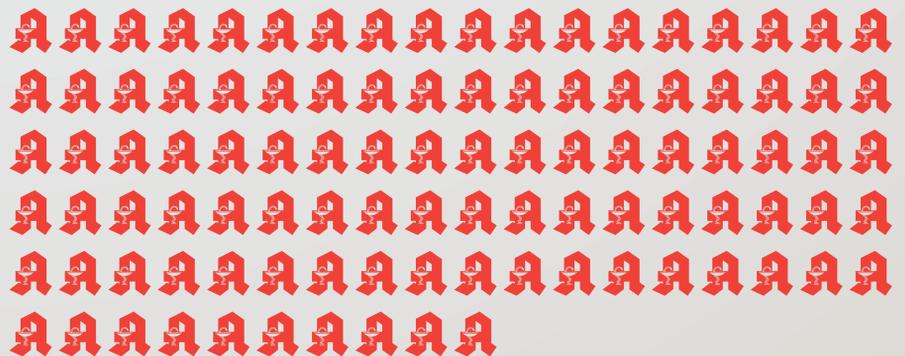
RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Many fake Canadian online pharmacies come out of Russia and are part of the Glavmed fake pharmacy spam network.

Russian investigators have found that **over 400 members** of this fake pharmacy network have a second job: fake antivirus ads that install on your computer and tell you there are threats you need to pay them to clean up.⁵



GERMANY



Pharmacists in Germany have illegally purchased ingredients to make their own cancer drugs found in at least **100 German pharmacies** in 2010. It is not known how much was shipped out of the country.⁴

Comprised of more than 65 non-profit organizations, the Partnership for Safe Medicines (PSM) is a public health group committed to the safety of prescription drugs and protecting consumers against counterfeit, substandard or otherwise unsafe medicines. To learn more or join visit our website at www.safemedicines.org.

The Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies (ASOP) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting patient safety globally and ensuring patient access to safe and legitimate online pharmacies in accordance with applicable laws. To learn more, visit our website: www.safeonlinepharm.com.

Sources: <http://www.safemedicines.org/counterfeit-drug-incidents-in-g8-countries.html>

