

## China pharma scrutiny widens, Novo probed

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**Singapore:** Amid constant scrutiny of local operations of drugmakers in China, now Danish drug maker Novo Nordisk was paid a visit by the Chinese regulators.

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Authorities visited the company's production facility in Tianjin in northern China and information on the drug maker's operations was taken from there, the company spokesperson said in a statement on August 9. He however clarified that the

reason for the visit was unclear.

"The Administration for Industry and Commerce (AIC) in China hasn't accused Novo Nordisk of any wrongdoing," the spokesperson said.

[Officials from AIC in China also visited Sanofi in Shenyang on July 29 and regulators took certain documents along with them, although Sanofi has declined to share information on the documents](#) Last month, immediately after the GlaxoSmithKline bribery saga unfolded, Belgian drug maker UCB too was visited by AIC while carrying out an 'inspection and compliance process.'

The Ministry of Public Security had last month leveled out accusations against UK drug maker GlaxoSmithKline for bribing doctors, hospitals and government officials with money and sexual favors in a bid to sell more drugs at higher prices.