
FDA Vaccine Chief Under Trump Administration Resigns Again

Description

Dr. Vinay Prasad, the vaccine chief at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), is leaving the agency again. This is his second departure in less than a year. He has faced criticism for decisions on vaccines and treatments for rare diseases.

FDA Commissioner Marty Makary informed staff in an email that Prasad will leave at the end of April. He will return to his academic position at the University of California, San Francisco. In July, Prasad stepped down briefly after disagreements with biotech leaders and patient groups but returned soon after.

Recently, Prasad faced strong criticism for his decisions as the FDA reviewed vaccines and gene therapies. Firms have complained that the FDA changed its mind on products that were previously approved. This has led to delays in their development.

One major issue involved a flu vaccine from Moderna. Initially, Prasad did not allow the FDA to review this vaccine. After Moderna challenged his decision, the FDA agreed to review it after an additional study. There was also a dispute with UniQure, a company developing a treatment for Huntington's Disease, about the requirement for new trials.

Prasad's time at the FDA has been marked by disagreements and new requirements for developing drugs. Critics are unsure about his approach to regulation.

Vocabulary List:

1. **gene therapies** /dʒi:n 'θerəpiz/ (noun (phrase)): Medical treatments that work by changing or replacing genes to treat or prevent disease.
2. **biotech** /'baɪə,tɛk/ (noun): Short for biotechnology: companies or the industry that use biological science to develop medicines therapies and related technologies.
3. **regulation** /,rɛgju'leɪʃən/ (noun): A rule or set of rules made by an authority (like the FDA) that controls how something is done.
4. **trials** /traɪəlz/ (noun (plural)): Organized tests especially clinical tests of new drugs or treatments on people to check safety and effectiveness.
5. **requirement** /rɪ'kwaɪərmənt/ (noun): Something that is demanded or needed; in this article a study or test the FDA requires companies to do.
6. **criticism** /'krɪtɪsɪzəm/ (noun): The expression of disapproval or negative judgments about someone's decisions or actions.



Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What position did Dr. Vinay Prasad hold at the FDA?
Option: Director of Research
Option: Vaccine Chief
Option: Commissioner
Option: Head of Drug Approval
2. How many times has Dr. Prasad left the FDA in less than a year?
Option: One
Option: Two
Option: Three
Option: Four
3. Which university will Dr. Prasad return to?
Option: Stanford University
Option: University of California, San Francisco
Option: Harvard University
Option: Johns Hopkins University
4. What company developed a flu vaccine that faced review delays?
Option: Pfizer
Option: Moderna
Option: Johnson & Johnson
Option: AstraZeneca
5. What type of disease treatment was involved in a dispute with UniQure?
Option: Alzheimer's disease
Option: Parkinson's disease
Option: Huntington's disease
Option: Multiple sclerosis
6. Who informed staff about Dr. Prasad's departure?
Option: The President



- Option: FDA Commissioner Marty Makary
- Option: The Vice President
- Option: A government official

True-False

- 7. Dr. Prasad is leaving the FDA for the second time.
- 8. Dr. Prasad faced no criticism during his time at the FDA.
- 9. Dr. Prasad stepped down due to disagreements with biotech leaders.
- 10. The FDA regularly approves requests without review.
- 11. Dr. Prasad's decisions were always welcomed by firms in the industry.
- 12. Prasad's time at the FDA was characterized by unanimous support for all his decisions.

Gap-Fill

- 13. Dr. Vinay Prasad is leaving the FDA at the end of _____.
- 14. Dr. Prasad's departure is his second in less than _____.
- 15. He faced strong criticism for decisions regarding _____ and gene therapies.
- 16. The dispute involved a treatment for _____ disease.
- 17. Dr. Prasad did not initially allow the FDA to review a flu vaccine from _____.
- 18. Prasad has faced criticism for his approach to _____.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Vaccine Chief 2. Two 3. University of California, San Francisco 4. Moderna 5. Huntington's disease 6. FDA Commissioner Marty Makary

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. April 14. a year 15. vaccines 16. Huntington's 17. Moderna 18. regulation



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What do financial markets refer to contracts that allow investors to buy or sell at a predetermined price at a future date?
Option: Options
Option: Stocks
Option: Futures
Option: Bonds
2. What term refers to taxes imposed on imported goods?
Option: Subsidies
Option: Duties
Option: Tariffs
Option: Exports
3. Which sector focuses on manipulating biological organisms or systems for technological advancement?
Option: Pharmaceutical
Option: Biotech
Option: Healthcare
Option: Manufacturing
4. What term describes a decline in the stock market after a period of rising prices?
Option: Recession
Option: Correction
Option: Boom
Option: Depression
5. Who are the individuals or entities that allocate capital with the expectation of a financial return?
Option: Borrowers
Option: Buyers
Option: Investors
Option: Sellers
6. What do we call goods and services sent out of a country for sale?
Option: Imports
Option: Exports
Option: Stocks
Option: Tariffs



7. What is the term used for the process of transporting goods by sea?

Option: Transporting

Option: Delivering

Option: Shipping

Option: Freight

8. What is the process of creating goods and services called?

Option: Manufacturing

Option: Production

Option: Consumption

Option: Distribution

9. What term describes the total amount of a product or service available for purchase?

Option: Demand

Option: Supply

Option: Market

Option: Investment

10. In the context of drug development, what are controlled tests of the effectiveness and safety of medical treatments called?

Option: Studies

Option: Tests

Option: Trials

Option: Surveys

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The missile's _____ trajectory indicated it would reach its target swiftly.

12. The investigation into the incident is still _____ and no conclusions have been drawn.

13. The government introduced new _____ to ensure safer practices in the industry.

14. The proposal faced heavy _____ from various stakeholders who disagreed with its implementation.

15. The company decided to _____ the product from the market due to safety concerns.

16. During the pandemic, many countries began to _____ medical supplies to prepare for



emergencies.

17. Recent advances in _____ have shown promise in treating genetic disorders.

18. The new system includes a _____ process to ensure all data is accurate before submission.

19. During his _____, he implemented several key policies that changed the nation's direction.

20. The significant loss in revenue _____ the company's previous growth strategies and forced a reevaluation.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The ongoing negotiations have kept both parties engaged in dialogue.
22. Tariffs can increase the cost of imported goods, impacting consumers.
23. The biotech sector continues to explore innovative solutions for healthcare challenges.
24. Exports play a critical role in boosting a nation's economy.
25. Increased production rates are vital for meeting growing global demand.
26. Shipping goods efficiently is essential for international trade.
27. Investors use futures contracts to hedge against market volatility.
28. The supply chain disruptions affected many businesses worldwide.
29. Clinical trials are crucial for determining the safety and efficacy of new drugs.
30. Many investors are looking for sustainable opportunities in the market.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Futures 2. Tariffs 3. Biotech 4. Correction 5. Investors 6. Exports 7. Shipping 8. Production 9. Supply



10. Trials

Gap-Fill: 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.

Matching sentence: 1. ongoing 2. tariffs 3. biotech 4. exports 5. production 6. shipping 7. futures 8. supply
9. trials 10. investors

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL2

POST TAG

1. A2
2. ESL learning
3. esl news
4. FDA
5. Level 2
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7. Vaccine

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