

Coronavirus outbreak hurts Egypt's drug industry

Egypt could face a possible shortage of crucial drugs if imports of key ingredients from China remain affected by government measures to contain the coronavirus outbreak. Now drugmakers have to use their stocks which are sufficient for about six months, according to Chairman of the Pharmaceuticals division Ali Ouf. Around 80% of the active pharmaceutical ingredients used in drugs for the Egyptian market are manufactured in China, India, and South Korea. "If we did not start importing raw material from other countries, we will face shortages in antibiotics, diabetes, and blood pressure medications," he warned.