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Report: India to export some paracetamol active substance to Europe

-- By Carmen Paun
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India will export about 1,000 tonnes of the active substance for paracetamol to Europe in an easing of export restrictions put in place for the coronavirus pandemic.

“We have been under immense pressure from the European Union for the last 10 days,” Dinesh Dua, chairman of the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India, a government export body, [told Reuters](#).

The European Commission had been [negotiating with the Indian government](#) since late March, and has asked India for up to 800 tonnes of paracetamol active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) every month, Dua said.

India is one of the main sources of APIs and medicines for the EU, but [banned exports](#) of the pain reliever paracetamol itself and its active ingredients in early March to ensure domestic supplies. Europe imports around 12,000 tonnes of paracetamol APIs from India each year, according to the Reuters report.

In late April, European Health Commissioner Stella Kyriakides [told EU health ministers](#) that India would lift its ban on paracetamol, but keep it for APIs.

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