BioSpectrum
the business of Bio & Health Sciences
ASIA EDITION

GSK's Mark Reilly to return to China shortly

July 29, 2013 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau



Singapore: GlaxoSmithKline's former China head Mr Mark Reilly would be returning to China shortly to assist the police with the ongoing corruption probe, the British drugmaker said in a statement.

After the Chinese authorities detained 18 more employees of the drugmaker, GSK's Melbourne-based spokesperson, Ms Lisa Maguire told the media through a statement that Mr Reilly who was replaced as China head by Herve Gisserot will soon be making his way back to China.

Mr Reilly had left China earlier last month, after four GSK employees were detained for investigation. The company had then claimed that he had gone back to UK for scheduled meetings.Ã?Â

China's Ministry of Public Security has accused GSK of spending $489 million in spurious travel and meeting expenses as well as trade in sexual favors. At a recent earnings announcement conference by GSK's chief financial officer, the company stated that GSK China's sales contribution would be impacted in the second half of 2013.

"GSK's sales contribution from China, where revenue gained 20 percent last year is likely to be impacted by the current inquiries in the second half of 2013. It is too early to quantify this," said Mr Simon Dingemans, chief financial officer, GSK. China accounted for about $1.5 billion in Glaxo sales last year, according to the company.