The National Institute of Health (NIH) has announced that production of drugs for use in clinical studies has been suspended after fungal contamination was found in two vials of product. The exact source of the contamination has not been identified, but a recent Food and Drug Administration (FDA) inspection of the facility that prepared the product found multiple deficiencies, including issues with both the facility and the work practices.

“This is a distressing and unacceptable situation. The fact that patients may have been put in harm’s way because of a failure to follow standard operating procedures ... is deeply troubling. I will personally oversee the steps to protect the safety of patients and remedy the situation as swiftly as possible.”

- NIH Director Francis S. Collins

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