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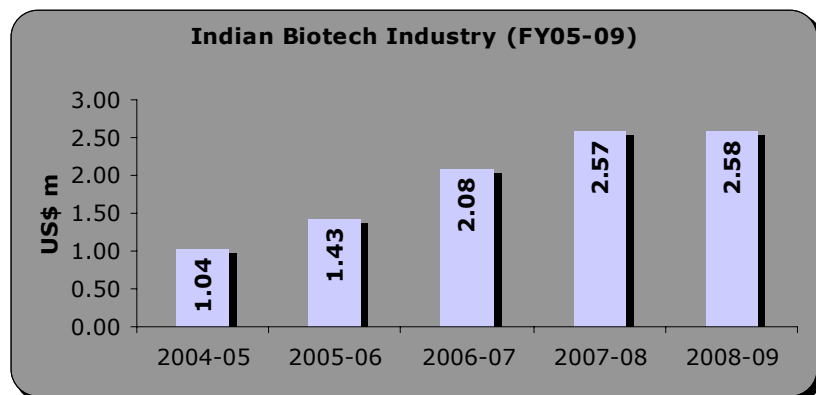
In Focus: Indian Biotechnology Market

Introduction

The Indian biotechnology industry has been insulated from the volatility at the global level due to its small size. It grew at a steady pace even during the global economic slowdown. The Indian biotechnology industry has benefited from the recent focus on knowledge-based industries. It has attracted attention from government, institutions, academe and industry. The development of biotechnology in India is crucial in this era because of its generic status implications for economic production in the sectors like agriculture, health, industry and environment. The Indian biotechnology industry is classified into five major segments. They are: Biopharmaceuticals, Bioservices, Bioagriculture, Bioindustry and Bioinformatics.

Indian biotech Industry has recorded a growth of 18%

In 2008-09, the Indian biotech industry has recorded a growth of 18% (in terms of Rs) with revenues of US\$2.58 billion (Rs 12,137 crore). But, in terms of dollar business, the industry was



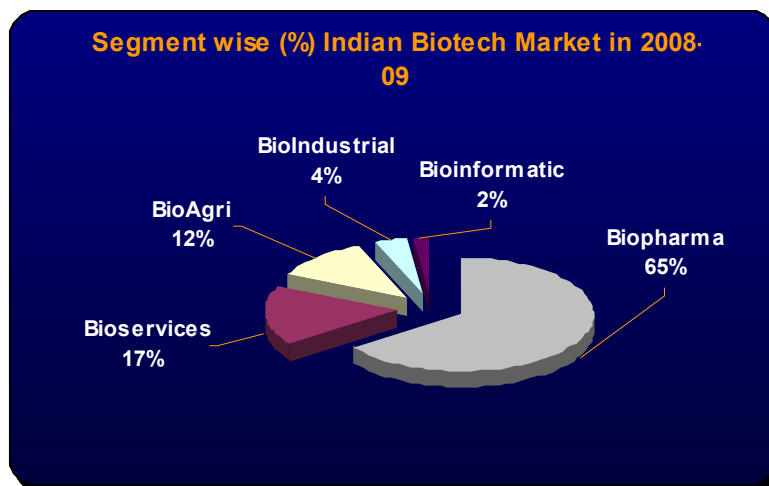
Source: Cygnus Research; Able BioSpectrum

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where it had been in the last fiscal, i.e., at US\$2.5 billion, with the price of a dollar hovering around Rs47 during the year 2008-09. The exchange rate of the dollar, which was around Rs40 per dollar in 2007-08, grew by 18-19%, and this is reflected in the performance of the industry.

Biopharma lead the Indian Biotech Market

In Indian biotech market, Biopharma contributed 65% (US\$1.67 billion) to the revenues whereas Bioservices contributed around 17% (US\$0.44 billion) to the revenues and it has registered highest growth (31%) when compared to previous year, followed by BioAgri, Bio-industrial and Bioinformatics with 12%, 4% and 2% respectively.



Source: Cygnus Research; Able BioSpectrum

Biopharma lead Exports and Domestic Sales

In Exports also major share is occupied by biopharma with sales of US\$1035.74 million, followed by Bioservices with US\$417.87 million. In domestic sales, biopharma has recorded revenue of US\$641.49 million. Bio Agri has recorded revenue of US\$304.99 million.

Domestic sales and Exports (US\$ million) of Indian Biotech		
	Domestic	Exports
Biopharma	641.49	1,035.74
Bioservices	20.85	417.87
BioAgri	304.89	12.98
BioIndustrial	82.77	18.94
Bioinformatics	10.64	36.17

Source: Cygnus Research; Able BioSpectrum

Growth drivers

- 150% weight reduction on the expenditure incurred in house R&D to all manufacturing business units except for small negative list.
- Indian companies are encouraged through public funded R&D bill

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- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Biosimilar products
- Outsourcing
- Public-Private Partnership

Serum Institute of India led the market share (9.18%) and Bharath biotech has highest growth rate (149.22%):

Top 20 Companies of Indian Biotech Market (US\$ million)					
Sno	Company	2007-08	2008-09	Growth (%)	Market share (%)
1	Serum Institute of India	235	237.02	0.86	9.18
2	Biocon	208.79	194.11	-7.03	7.52
3	Panacea biotech	161.53	127.05	-21.35	4.92
4	Rasi seeds	69.83	79.91	14.44	3.09
5	Nuziveedu seeds	69.5	77.44	11.42	3.00
6	Novonordisk	61.9	70.21	13.42	2.72
7	Siro Clinpharma	-	59.57	-	2.31
8	NovoZymes South Asia	53.57	53.19	-0.71	2.06
9	Shantha biotech	35.71	52.55	47.16	2.04
10	Jubilant	37.86	51.49	36.00	1.99
11	Bharath biotech	19.97	49.81	149.42	1.93
12	Indian Immunological	46.53	49.25	5.85	1.91
13	Syngene International	47.79	47.79	0.00	1.85
14	Mahyco	40.48	44.92	10.97	1.74
15	Eli lilly	35.48	34.89	-1.66	1.35
16	Bharath serums	33.33	29.79	-10.62	1.15
17	Ocimum Biosolutions	15.48	23.94	54.65	0.93
18	Themis Medicare	26.198	20.74	-20.83	0.80
19	Concord Biotech	12.65	20.66	63.32	0.80
20	Intas	11.26	18.99	68.65	0.74

Source: Cygnus Research; Able BioSpectrum

Key Highlights:

- In Indian biotech market, top 20 companies occupy around 52%, and the major share is held by top 10 companies which are around 39% in the total market value.
- In Indian biotech market, top five companies occupy around 28% in the total market share.
- Serum institute of India has highest market share at 9.18%
- Bharath biotech has recorded a highest growth (149.42%)
- Siro Clinpharma is a new entrant in top 10 companies with good revenues.
- Top companies have shown negative growth, which is mainly impacted with credit squeeze.



News Briefs

MARKETING

America

USA: CeliCare Health Plan of Massachusetts to provide healthcare to legal immigrants

CeliCare announced that the Commonwealth has accepted its proposal to manage healthcare services for Aliens with Special Status (AWSS). This population has been enrolled in the Commonwealth Care insurance program (Commonwealth Care) run by the Massachusetts Health Connector. The State's budget constraints resulted in recent cutbacks in healthcare coverage for this population. CeliCare will provide these Massachusetts legal immigrants with coverage for health services effectively from October 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. CeliCare began serving Commonwealth Care members on July 1, 2009 and currently serves members in the Boston, Central, Northern, and Southern regions of Massachusetts. CeliCare will also provide services to Commonwealth Choice members starting January 1, 2010.

USA: Focus Diagnostics launches 2009 H1N1 Flu Test Kit to commercial laboratories

Focus Diagnostics, the infectious disease diagnostics business of Quest Diagnostics Inc. announced that its Influenza A H1N1 (2009) Real Time RT-PCR test is now available as a test kit for use by "high complexity" clinical laboratories in the US. The test qualitatively detects the RNA of the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus ("pandemic virus") from a patient's nasal, nasopharyngeal or throat specimen. In combination with clinical and epidemiological assessments, the test aids physicians in diagnosing patients infected with the pandemic virus rather than other influenza A strains. In April 2009, the FDA granted two EUAs in connection with the CDC's RT-PCR diagnostic panel used by public health labs in the US to detect the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus infection. In its EUA application to the FDA, Focus Diagnostics presented data involving more than 100 clinical specimens indicating that the Focus Diagnostics test agreed 100% with the CDC's RT-PCR test in identifying specimens as positive or negative for the pandemic virus.

Americas

Canada: Abbott gets Health Canada nod to market Xience V drug eluting stent

Abbott announced has received approval from Health Canada for the Xience V Everolimus Eluting Coronary Stent System for the treatment of coronary artery disease (CAD). Everolimus is licensed to Abbott by Novartis for use on its drug eluting stents.

Europe

Switzerland: BioAlliance Pharma's Loramyc gets marketing authorisation in Switzerland

BioAlliance Pharma SA, a company dedicated to the treatment and supportive care of cancer and AIDS patients, announced that Loramyc has obtained marketing authorisation in Switzerland for the treatment of oropharyngeal candidiasis in immunocompromised patients (mainly cancer and AIDS patients with oral opportunistic infections). This approval represents an important milestone for Loramyc which is now registered in 12 countries in Europe including Switzerland. This step will thus reinforce Loramyc opportunity for a European commercial agreement for which the company is actively seeking a suitable partner involved in the supportive care field. Loramyc value has also recently been strengthened by the US FDA acceptance of its New Drug Application.

UK: Philips launches latest in advanced technology to help detect heart diseases

Royal Philips Electronics is to unveil its latest advance in heart disease detection, the PageWriter TC50 cardiograph, which uses gender-differentiated criteria to assist in the diagnosis of heart disease in women, where symptoms may be different from men. The PageWriter TC50 will have its global launch at the

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European Society of Cardiology (ESC) Congress 2009. Philips is the first company to provide healthcare professionals with comprehensive diagnostic tools which respond to recommendations by the American Heart Association, the American College of Cardiology Foundation and the Heart Rhythm Society for myocardial infarction and acute ischemia, including gender and age-specific criteria.

UK: QSI inks partnership pact with Lennox Labs to market WinLims in Ireland

Quality Systems International (QSI) has entered into a premier partnership agreement with Lennox Laboratory Supplies Ltd of Dublin, Ireland which will see QSI and Lennox working closely together to market the WinLims Laboratory Information Management System throughout Ireland

Europe: Saint-Gobain launches new biopharma tubing

Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics has launched a new line of platinum-cured silicone tubing for demanding applications in the biopharmaceutical market. Sani-Tech Ultra tubing is designed to comply with the highest sanitary standards and provides very low total organic carbon (TOC) levels, which the company says greatly reduces the likelihood of contamination. The tubing is also designed to prevent taste or odour transfer into materials that are passed through the casing.

Sweden: Medicago finds partner to market flu vaccines

Medicago, a vaccine developer, said that it has signed a preliminary pact with Ajanta Pharma for commercialisation of its pandemic and seasonal flu product in India and other territories. Ajanta is a fast-growing Indian biopharma company and a definitive agreement is expected to be signed within the next few days, Medicago said. This potential partnership validates proprietary plant-based technologies and will provide Medicago with another near-term commercial opportunity to broaden deployment of our novel flu vaccines, especially in regions lacking manufacturing facilities.

ASIA-PACIFIC

Singapore: Emerson Process Management wins major biopharma contract

A major biopharmaceutical plant in Singapore has contracted Emerson Process Management Asia Pacific to provide engineering and design services along with its PlantWeb and DeltaV digital automation systems to control the processes inside the plant. Switzerland-based Lonza Group Ltd chose Emerson Process Management Asia Pacific to provide the process control system for a new Lonza biopharmaceutical plant being built in Singapore. The new facility is intended to expand Lonza's ability to meet the needs of its leading pharmaceutical customers, and its design is leveraged heavily on that of Lonza's first Singapore Biopharmaceutical plant, which will be operational in 2009, a notice from the automation provider said.

India: Anika gets OK to market drug in Canada

Anika Therapeutics said it has received regulatory approval to distribute a treatment for osteoarthritis of the knee in Canada. The treatment is MONOVISC, a single injection visco supplement for the treatment of osteoarthritis of the knee. MONOVISC has been broadly available in the European Union since the second quarter of 2008. The company is moving forward on its goal to receive approval for MONOVISC in the United States.

India: Healthcare industry grew 42% in first quarter

India's healthcare industry registered 42.44% growth in net profit during April-June. When the whole world was reeling under global slowdown, the domestic healthcare sector registered healthy growth during the first quarter of the current fiscal. In the healthcare sector, the leading 10 companies posted a growth of 23.94% in total income and 21.37% in total expenditure during the quarter.

India: Telecom giants focus on health care business opportunity

Recognising that the healthcare industry is a major opportunity for new service revenue, telecom service providers are tailoring their sales approach and, in many cases, creating new sales and customer service organisations designed specifically to create solutions for healthcare operations. Verizon Business is

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focusing on three key initiatives within health care: the need for higher quality care, the need for universal care and the need for greater efficiency. They map those healthcare needs to three primary solution areas—mobility, healthcare information management, and the third one is telemedicine. Those are three major categories where Verizon as a healthcare practices is focusing its attention.

India: Primal reports progress on drug research for cancer, diabetes

Primal Healthcare's drug discovery arm, Primal Life Sciences Ltd (PLSL), is planning to move at least three more novel chemical entities (NCE) under development into the human clinical trial stage within the next six months. Currently, PLSL has seven molecules under development in the clinical trial phase. These three molecules under development are in focus areas of PLSL such as cancer, diabetes, inflammation and infectious diseases. PLSL's lead molecule under development for cancer treatment has completed two Phases-I studies and is being tested in two Phase-II clinical trials in America. Another phase-II trial for the drug is also being held in India for multiple myeloma.

India: Dr. Batra's launches the Industry's first "Health in Your Hands" services

Dr. Batras' Positive Health Clinic Pvt. Ltd. introduced a globally accepted WAP enabled initiative for the very first time in India. Since mobile users constitute 40% of the India's population, this launch re-iterates the organisation's commitment to providing timely and highly accessible homeopathic healthcare solutions to benefit patients across the country's length and breadth. mHealth, the first-of-its kind launch to be initiated by a homeopathic organisation in India, highlights the innovative application of technology to make healthcare solutions available to multitudes at the touch of a button. One of the leading features of this WAP enabled service is free consultation to any mobile user, irrespective of whether he/she is a patient of Dr. Batra's clinic.

India: Cipla's clone of Bayer cancer drug gets nod

In a major win for Indian companies, the Delhi High Court (HC) on dismissed German drug major Bayer Healthcare's attempt to stop the drug regulator from giving marketing approval to Indian company, Cipla for the generic version of Bayer's patented cancer drug, Nexavar. Last November, the Delhi HC had prevented Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) from giving marketing rights to Cipla for the generic version of Nexavar after Bayer alleged that it would infringe upon its patent. It also said that Cipla's drug was spurious. The German firm got the patent for Nexavar, (chemical name sorafenib tosylate) in India in March 2008. Indian patent laws provide the patent holder exclusive marketing rights for 20 years with no competition from generic low-cost companies.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

AMERICAS

USA: Stanford Spinout Eiger Biopharma licenses Hep C Drug targets from school

Eiger Biopharmaceuticals, a recent spinout of Stanford University, said that it has licensed the exclusive rights to a hepatitis C virus technology from the university. The technology, discovered in the laboratory of Stanford researcher and Eiger co-founder Jeffrey Glenn, pertains to a variety of drug targets, including key features of NS4B, a non-structural protein in the HCV genome that binds to HCV-RNA and is required for viral replication.

USA: Dry powder vaccine nears Phase I

A dry powder measles vaccine formulation and inhalers that could be as affordable as needle treatments are due to enter Phase I in 2010. The research update was presented by Robert Sievers, who led the research team, at the national meeting of the American Chemical Society. Sievers' team is attempting to create an inhaled formulation that can match the price of needle delivery, which is currently 27 US cents (19 Euro cents). This effort has brought together 25 people from nine organisations, including the Serum Institute of India that has taken responsibility for some manufacturing operations. At the institute myo-inositol was substituted for sorbitol, which is currently used in one of the institute's commercial products, to create a new formulation. In addition, the formulation has been shipped to India and back without aggregation occurring.

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USA: Hawaii Biotech begins phase-1 trial for dengue vaccine

Hawaii Biotech announced that the company has initiated a phase-1 clinical study with their monovalent dengue vaccine candidate. The double-blind, placebo controlled, dose escalation safety study in healthy subjects is being conducted at the Saint Louis University Center for Vaccine Development. This dengue clinical study is an important milestone in Hawaii Biotech's maturation as a clinical stage company. In addition it confirms the versatility of the company's subunit vaccine technology platform. This phase-1 study will also prepare the company for the initial clinical testing of Hawaii Biotech's tetravalent dengue vaccine.

Europe**UK: Shire enters research collaboration with Santaris Pharma on LNA drug platform**

Shire plc, the global specialty biopharmaceutical company, has entered into a research-based collaboration with Santaris Pharma A/S, a leading player in RNA-based therapeutics, to develop its proprietary Locked Nucleic Acid (LNA) technology in a range of rare diseases, thereby enabling Shire to build on its already strong competitive position for its Human Genetic Therapies (HGT) business. LNA technology has the benefit of a very quick validated target to proof of concept turnaround, thereby increasing the speed and lowering the cost of development. Currently, Shire HGT has a unique and successful platform producing human cell derived enzyme replacement therapies (ERTs) for a wide range of rare human genetic disorders. With this novel platform technology Shire has the potential to move into a wider range of genetic orphan diseases.

MIDDLE EAST**Israel: Can-Fite BioPharma Licenses Potential Inflammatory Disease Rxs from Leiden U, NIH**

Can-Fite BioPharma said that it has licensed a patent from Leiden University and the National Institutes of Health covering allosteric modulators of the A3 adenosine receptor for use in potential inflammatory disease treatments. Terms of the agreement call for Can-Fite, based in Petach Tikva, Israel, to pay an upfront fee of €25,000 (\$36,000) and annual minimal royalties of €10,000 to Leiden University and NIH. In addition, Can-Fite will pay milestone payments of up to €850,000 based on clinical development progress until marketing approval, and royalty payments of 2% to 3% of net sales of future products

MANUFACTURING /OPERATIONS**Americas****USA: Nanotherapeutics gets NIAID contract to develop inhaled antiviral for smallpox**

Nanotherapeutics, Inc, has been awarded a \$30.9m, five-year contract from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), to develop an inhaled version of the injectable antiviral drug, cidofovir, for non-invasive, post-exposure prophylaxis and treatment of the Category A bioterrorism agent smallpox (Variola major). Since transmission of smallpox occurs through inhalation of airborne variola virus, usually droplets expressed from the oral, nasal, or pharyngeal mucosa of an infected person, non-invasive anti-viral treatment alternatives with proven agents (cidofovir) are needed. Development of inhaled cidofovir will also provide an alternative for those who have contraindications to the currently approved smallpox vaccination such as severe exfoliative skin diseases, immunosuppression from many sources, and pregnancy.

America**US: Novartis starts testing swine flu vaccine**

Swiss drugmaker, Novartis has begun injecting its swine flu vaccine into people in the company's first human tests, a spokesman recently announced. The vaccine is being tested in a year long trial of 6,000 people of all ages in Britain, Germany and the United States, Novartis spokesman Eric Althoff told The Associated Press, adding that the vaccine will likely be on the market before the trial finishes.

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US: US FDA updates safety alert on 4 botulinum toxin drug products

The US Food and Drug Administration announced an update to a previous safety alert on four botulinum toxin drug products, noting that all of them now have boxed warnings on their labels and have developed Medication Guides for patients, as directed by the agency in April 2009. The boxed warning cautions that the effects of the botulinum toxin may spread from the area of injection to other areas of the body, causing symptoms similar to those of botulism. Those symptoms include potentially life-threatening swallowing and breathing difficulties and even death.

Canada: Chemaphor enters contribution agreement with NRC-IRAP

Chemaphor Inc, a biotechnology research and development company, has entered into a second contribution agreement with the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Programme (NRC-IRAP). This agreement will provide research and development financial support of approximately \$271,000. The contribution relates to the development of Chemaphor's OxBC product in a variety of dosage forms for canines. Chemaphor will work in collaboration with several leading Canadian specialty formulation companies in Ontario and Quebec to develop several companion animal OxBC prototype formulations that will undergo subsequent stability, palatability and safety testing. This contribution will also allow for the hire of one full-time analytical chemist.

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Asia Pacific**India: Indian team to do quality check at Chinese drug companies**

The Health Ministry is planning to send a team of drug inspectors to China to inspect drug manufacturing facilities that supply bulk drugs to India. Bulk drugs are raw materials used for manufacturing medicines or formulations. India imports a huge quantity of bulk drug from China due to the low pricing of Chinese raw material. The country's top-drug regulator, Drug Controller General of India (DCGI), has recently raised concerns about the quality of the drugs imported from China and used in medicines manufactured in India, a Health Ministry official declared.

India: Drug makers face penalty for overcharging

Drug manufacturing companies such as Cipla, Ranbaxy, Johnson & Johnson and Dr Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) may have to pay over Rs20.38 billion to the government for overcharging consumers on price-controlled medicines. Through a nation-wide survey and other tools of inspections, the drug price regulator, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has found that these pharmaceutical companies were overcharging consumers for several medicines or selling them without a price approval from NPPA.

India: Bulk drug units in AP urge govt to allow inter-change volume of production

The bulk drug manufacturers in Andhra Pradesh have urged the State government to allow the units to inter-change the volume of production on each item without reducing the effluent load correspondingly with the state.

China: Simcere's 42 generic drugs included in China's essential drug list

Simcere Pharmaceutical Group, a leading manufacturer and supplier of branded generic and innovative pharmaceuticals in China, announced that 42 of its generic drugs have been included in China's Essential Drug List (EDL), which was issued by China's Ministry of Health (MOH). In the 2009 second quarter earnings conference call, the company announced that seven of its generics entered China's EDL. These

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seven medicines are branded generics, which are currently manufactured with significant sales or large market potential. The other generics comprising the 42 medicines are seldom manufactured or have had insignificant sales in recent years.

India: Central agency for buying, distributing drugs for all govt depts, institutions mooted

The Centre is planning to set up a central procurement agency for buying and distributing medicines to all medical institutions under the government departments, with a view to bring in more transparency in such dealings. A cabinet note has already been prepared in this regard by the Ministry of Health and has been sent to all concerned ministries and departments for comments and inputs. The note will be submitted to the cabinet once the feedbacks come from these departments.

India: Several drugs banned in US, Europe freely marketed in India

Several drugs, banned for their serious side effects in developed nations like US, Canada and European Union, are freely available in the country. Though the list of such drugs is long, the latest among them is a combination drug of flupenthixol and melitracen, sold under the brand name of Deanxit. The product has been banned in the above countries for its serious adverse drug reactions. According to sources, though melitracen, one of the two ingredients in Deanxit is not approved in India, the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) is learnt to have cleared the combination reportedly without mandatory clinical trials.

US: US FDA prohibits Teva Animal Health to manufacture

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced a consent decree of permanent injunction filed, that prohibits Teva Animal Health Inc., its president, and two principals from its parent company, from manufacturing and distributing adulterated veterinary drugs. The injunction, once entered by the court, will prevent the defendants from manufacturing and distributing veterinary drugs until they achieve compliance with current Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP) and obtain FDA approval.

India: Envee Drugs plans new R&D unit

The Gujarat-based Envee Drugs Pvt Ltd (EDPL), a company engaged in development, manufacturing and supply of quality Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs), intermediates, formulations and cosmetics, is planning to start a new R&D unit for developing new products according to its Managing Director. They already have a state-of-the-art R&D laboratory focusing on production and scale up, stability and R&D on new molecules in select therapeutic spectrum and current ones

Asia-Pacific

Silence collaborating on AtuRNAi drug delivery tech

Dainippon Sumitomo Pharma has entered into a collaboration to develop Silence Therapeutics' AtuRNAi delivery technology which improves stability and to cut manufacturing costs. AtuRNAi is stable against nuclease degradation, giving it a longer half-life that allows for lower doses to be administered, less frequently. Furthermore, the delivery vehicle is constructed using naturally occurring RNA. The collaboration will use this technology to develop treatments for specific targets, details of which have not been disclosed. AtuPLEX, Silence's technology for improving intracellular uptake, will also be used by the collaborators.

India: Neuland Lab begins peptides production, starts new High Potent API facility

Neuland Laboratories, a reliable global provider of APIs and other essential drug discovery and development support services announced successfully commencement of manufacturing of peptides blocks by successfully commercializing the production of Fmoc Pseudoproline Dipeptides and other building blocks in India and the US subsidiary. In the initial phase the company will target the US and Europe markets. Developing markets will follow in the next phase. Neuland's quality of products is superior with attractive pricing and it is poised to penetrate into this peptide synthesis market.

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India: NIPER to set up office in Delhi for better coordination with DoP, other institutes

National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali, which is coordinating different activities of all NIPERs as the lead institute, is planning to set up an office in New Delhi for better coordination.

USFDA APPROVALS**Americas****USA: Aurobindo gets US & Swiss nod for two products**

Aurobindo Pharma has received US FDA's final approval for Clindamycin Hydrochloride capsules USP 150mg (base) and 300mg. Similarly, Swissmedic, Government of Switzerland has approved the license of Cefepime APL for Injection 1g and 2g. Clindamycin Hydrochloride capsules USP 150mg (base) and 300mg (base) are generic equivalent to Cleocin Hydrochloride capsules 150mg and 300 mg of Pharmacia and Upjohn Company. Clindamycin Hydrochloride is indicated in the treatment of serious infections caused by susceptible anaerobic bacteria and falls under the anti-infective therapeutic segment. The product has a market size of approximately US\$55m for the twelve months ending March 2009. The product will be launched shortly. Aurobindo now has a total of 101 ANDA approvals (73 final approvals and 28 tentative approvals) from US FDA.

USA: Unichem Lab gets US FDA nod for clonidine HCl tabs

Unichem Laboratories, a Mumbai based Rs7.25 billion plus pharma major has received US FDA approval for clonidine hydrochloride tablets. These tablets are a low dose potent and popular molecule in the anti-hypertensive category. The company is commencing marketing of this product from its Goa plant. The API ingredient that is clonidine hydrochloride used for this ANDA will also be made in house at Roha plant. Clonidine hydrochloride tablets USP 0.1 mg, 0.2 mg and 0.3 mg are therapeutically equivalent to Catapres tablets from Boehringer Ingelheim. This formulation has annual sales of approximately US\$334m in the US. This approval will substantially increase the presence of Unichem in US market. Unichem already has 6 other ANDAs duly approved and there are some more ANDA's in pipeline.

USA: APP Pharma gets US FDA nod to market penicillin G potassium injection USP

APP Pharmaceuticals, Inc, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fresenius Kabi Pharmaceuticals Holding, Inc, has received approval from the US FDA to market penicillin G potassium for injection, USP, in two dosage strengths. Penicillin G is therapeutically equivalent to the reference drug PfizerPen G, which is marketed by the innovator Pfizer, Inc. APP will package penicillin G in 5m and 20m unit single dose vials. APP's Penicillin G is AP-rated, bar-coded and latex-free. 2008 sales of this product in the US were approximately \$16.4m. Penicillin G is used to treat a wide variety of bacterial infections, including pneumococcal infections, streptococcal infections, staphylococcal infections, diphtheria, meningitis, clostridial infections and anthrax.

Europe**Novartis' Xolair gets EU nod to treat allergic asthma in 6-11 years age group**

Novartis announced that the European Commission (EC) has approved Xolair (omalizumab) as add-on therapy for severe persistent allergic asthma in children age six to 11 years. The approval was based in part on a landmark study that showed Xolair reduced asthma attacks by 34% after 24 weeks of treatment and provided an overall reduction of 50% at one year in patients between 6 and 11 years old. Novartis said that approved as add-on therapy, Xolair offers a new treatment approach to nearly 35,000 children in the EU with uncontrolled severe persistent allergic asthma.

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Finance

Asia Pacific

India: Indian pharma attracts Rs21.41 billion FDI in 2007-09

The Indian pharmaceutical industry has received almost Rs21.41 billion investment through Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the last two financial years, with most of the fund infusion directed to healthcare and biotech ventures. Out of the total investment, almost 82% of the FDI in pharma sector was from five countries - Mauritius, Singapore, USA, UAE and Canada. According to the latest report of the Department of Pharmaceuticals, the pharma industry in the country has attracted investment from 36 countries in a period between April 2007 and April 2009, to an amount of Rs21.40 billion-fund infusion.

India: Evolvence India to invest Rs250m in Anjan Drugs

Evolvence India Life Sciences Fund has committed a private equity investment of Rs250m to Chennai-based pharmaceutical company, Anjan Drugs. The company which produces bulk drugs and pharmaceutical intermediates for nervous system, psychotic disorders and cardiovascular problems like divalproex sodium, atenolol, chlorprozamine Hcl, has a few more products in the pipeline. Further, the company also plans to set up an additional facility off Chennai.

India: IOLCP to invest Rs2.56 billion to expand chemicals and pharma operation

The Punjab-based IOL Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd (IOLCP), the major bulk chemicals, intermediates, speciality chemicals manufacturer in India, is expanding its current manufacturing capacity

MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS

Asia-Pacific

India: India Fortis to buy Wockhardt assets for US\$187m

India's Fortis Healthcare Ltd said that it will pay Rs9.09 billion (\$187m) to buy 10 hospitals from Wockhardt Hospitals Ltd, which failed in its efforts to go public last year. The acquisition will add 1,902 beds to New Delhi-based Fortis' network, taking its capacity to 5,180 across 38 hospitals, and expands its presence in western, southern and eastern India. This acquisition allows Fortis Healthcare to have a national presence. It significantly strengthens and enlarges the critical infrastructure and our understanding of patients along the country.

India: Religare advises Fortis Healthcare Ltd

Religare Capital Markets Ltd. (RCML), the wholly owned subsidiary of Religare Enterprises Limited (REL), helped Fortis Healthcare Ltd. complete the landmark acquisition of 10 hospitals to significantly expand its Indian footprint in Mumbai, Kolkata and Bangalore. RCML was the sole advisor to the deal. Consideration for the deal, structured as the acquisition of Wockhardt Hospitals Ltd, is approximately US\$180m including capital towards work in progress on two of the 10 hospitals which remain under construction. RCML handles the institutional broking business of REL and was also instrumental in the acquisition of Hichens Harrison & Co Plc, said to be the oldest brokerage firm of London as well as the sale of Indian pharma major, Ranbaxy to Japanese leader, Daiichi Sankyo. After the acquisition, Hichens, Harrison and Co has now been re-christened as Religare Hichens Harrison (RHH).

Patents

Americas

USA: Mologen gets US patent for cell-based gene therapy to treat cancer

The patent office in the US has decided to grant Mologen AG the patent for cell-based gene therapy to treat cancer. This is a significant development for Mologen with respect to the subsequent licensing of a further highly innovative product candidate. Mologen's key technologies Midge and dSLIM and a

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Molgen cancer cell line are used in the cell-based gene therapy of cancer. Preparations are being made to apply for phase Ib/IIa clinical studies about the cell-based treatment of renal cancer for the product candidate MGN1601. The process developed by Molgen to treat cancer with cell-based gene therapy involves therapeutic vaccination to combat metastasised tumours and to prevent reoccurrence (recidivation) of them after an operation, radiation and/or chemotherapy.

Asia-Pacific

Japan: Osteologix gets key osteoporosis drug patent in Japan

Osteologix, Inc. announced that the Japan Patent Office (JPO) has issued a Decision to Grant a Patent for Application Number 2006-504379: 'Treating Cartilage/Bone Conditions with Water-Soluble Strontium Salts'. The patent claims cover the treatment of osteoporosis and related bone conditions using NB S101 (strontium malonate), the company's lead osteoporosis drug candidate. The company expects the patent will issue by the end of 2009. The patent's 20-year term will expire in 2024. Osteologix has now received patent protection for its novel osteoporosis therapy in the three major pharmaceutical markets in the world: Europe, United States and Japan.

OTHERS

GLOBAL

Global: Pfizer-Wyeth merger challenged as monopoly

Pharmacies that buy their drugs from Pfizer and Wyeth, two of the world's largest drug makers, say in an antitrust action filed in federal court that the companies' proposed US\$68 billion merger would give the new combine a 40% market monopoly, cost thousands of jobs, and lead to low quality drugs at high prices. In January 2009, Pfizer and Wyeth announced a US\$68 billion merger agreement, the largest big pharma and biopharma merger in world history. Pharmacies that buy drugs from Pfizer and Wyeth say that if the two are allowed to combine, it will result in the loss of at least 22,000 jobs and will give the new entity the muscle to sell low quality drugs of a limited selection, says the complaint filed. The merger would also smother innovation and research.

AMERICAS

USA: DOR BioPharma receives FDA Orphan Drug Designation for orBec(R)

DOR BioPharma, a late-stage biopharmaceutical company, announced that the Office of Orphan Products Development of the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted Orphan Drug Designation to Oral BDP or orBec(R) for the treatment of gastrointestinal symptoms associated with chronic Graft-versus-Host disease (cGVHD) in patients who have undergone allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation. The US Orphan Drug Act is intended to assist and encourage companies to develop safe and effective therapies for the treatment of rare diseases and disorders. In addition to providing a seven-year term of market exclusivity for orBec(R) upon final FDA approval, orphan drug designation also positions DOR to be able to take advantage of a wide range of financial and regulatory benefits, including government grants for conducting clinical trials, waiver of expensive FDA user fees for the potential submission of a New Drug Application for orBec(R), and certain tax credits.

USA: Amgen to collaborate with GSK to commercialise denosumab in Europe

Amgen and GlaxoSmithKline announced a collaboration in which the companies will share commercialisation of Amgen's monoclonal antibody denosumab for Postmenopausal Osteoporosis (PMO) in Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Mexico once the product is approved in these countries. Amgen will commercialise the drug for PMO and oncology in the US and Canada; and for all oncology indications in Europe and specified markets. GlaxoSmithKline will register and commercialise denosumab for all indications in countries where Amgen does not currently have a commercial presence, including China, Brazil, India and South Korea.

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USA: Cumberland raises \$85m, ending IPO drought

Nashville-based Cumberland Pharmaceuticals has broken a nearly two-year long drought of biopharma IPOs, raising \$85m in a public offering. Cumberland had expected to sell its shares for \$19 to \$21 each, but settled for \$17. The biopharma company has two products on the market, winning FDA approval for the pain and fever therapy Caldolor in June. Cumberland's strategy is to buy late-stage or approved therapies for acute care and gastroenterology. And the company says that it will use a chunk of its IPO money for new acquisitions.

USA: Aegis Therapeutics and Albany Medical College expand collaboration for Novel Oral Anti-Obesity Drug

Aegis Therapeutics and Albany Medical College announced that they have expanded their existing research relationship, entering into a joint commercialisation agreement to promote the clinical development of Albany Medical College's patented anti-obesity peptide drug. Under this agreement, Aegis will be responsible for developing an appropriate partnership with a pharmaceutical company interested in commercialising this exciting new drug in the obesity and diabetes fields.

EUROPE**UK: Millipore acquires European biopharmaceutical firm**

Millipore Corp. has purchased BioAnaLab, a British firm that analyses the effectiveness and safety of biologic drugs and vaccines. Billerica, Mass-based Millipore, a provider of equipment and services to the life sciences industry, says the transaction will help to expand its business into Europe and strengthen its position as an outsource partner to the biopharmaceutical industry.

UK: Clinical Reference sets up UK Lab along with Quotient Bioresearch

Clinical Reference Laboratory is to establish a European hub in the UK as part of a deal with Quotient Bioresearch through which the companies will jointly offer clinical laboratory and other specialist testing services to the global pharma, biopharma, and CRO industries. CRL's new European laboratory will be set up within Quotient Bioresearch's existing facilities. The companies' agreement will involve close collaboration to develop new services in areas like bioanalysis, biomarkers, and microbiology.

AFRICA**Venezuela: Pfizer pays \$17m after Venezuelan audit**

Pfizer's Venezuelan unit paid \$17m in back taxes after auditors questioned its transfer pricing methodology, Venezuela's tax service said. The Andean nation's tax service submitted the claim for back taxes in May after an audit of Pfizer's tax returns. The claim cited omissions of operational revenue and the way Pfizer accounted for sales to distributors and export clients in its report. Venezuela has cracked down on noncompliance with tax law in recent years. Companies that have not met requirements for records-keeping for value added tax have had their offices temporarily closed. Transfer pricing policies have come under close scrutiny as Venezuela seeks to maximise tax revenue from multinationals serving its import-dependent private sector.

ASIA-PACIFIC**India: Biocon mulls listing of two of its arms by next yr**

Bangalore-based biotechnology firm, Biocon is planning to list two of its arms Syngene International Limited and Clinigene International Limited by next year according to Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, Chairman and Managing Director, Biocon Limited. On the earlier postponements of the listing process of Syngene she said that the process to list the subsidiaries now is proceeding and it will be over by next year. The biopharma major had deferred the plans to list Syngene in 2008. But the decision to list Clinigene also is a new development in the company.

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India: Dishman scraps engineering SEZ, merges it with pharma project

The Rs10 billion Dishman Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals Ltd, a Contract Research and Manufacturing Services (CRAMS) major, has scrapped its engineering SEZ project slated to come up near Ahmedabad. The alteration in its Rs4 billion SEZ project plans was owing to the fact that the engineering sector is still reeling under the slowdown impact. The company had announced setting up of two SEZs, one for pharma and the other for engineering, near Ahmedabad.

India: Sun Pharma uses own plants for US market after Caraco trouble

In spite of a major regulatory clampdown on its US subsidiary, Caraco, Mumbai-based Sun Pharmaceuticals is trying hard to keep its US market share intact. The company is relying on its own manufacturing facilities to deliver goods to the US market. All eight ANDAs (Abbreviated New Drug Applications) for sales permission in the US filed during the first quarter of the current financial year (Q1FY2010) came from Sun's facilities. Between Sun and its subsidiaries, ANDAs for 73 products have been approved while ANDAs representing 111 products await drug regulator USFDA's approval.

Asia pacific**India: SC pulls up Ranbaxy on late refund demand**

The Supreme Court has admonished drug major, Ranbaxy Laboratories for not raising on the relevant occasion the issue of refunding Rs10m penalty the government imposed on it for allegedly overcharging drug prices. A Bench headed by Justice V S Sirpurkar, while hearing the Centre's plea, flayed Ranbaxy for not raising the issue when the matter was decided in May last year in the apex court.

India: SSI's urge PM to make guidelines of Spurious Drug Act

In the light of DCGI's nationwide survey revealing the fact that only less than 0.4% of the drugs marketed in the country are spurious, more than 5000 SSIs have once again urged Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh to make the guidelines of the recently notified Spurious Drugs Act legally binding so that only departmental action is applicable to legitimate manufactures unless they are habitual offenders. The SSIs have argued that media has been widely misused to trumpet exaggerated figures of spurious/fake drugs and evoke concern of public and law makers to push the Spurious Drugs Act Amendment Bill, increasing prison term to 10 years and a fine up to Rs1m.

India: Health Ministry to notify Spurious Drugs Bill soon

Almost nine months after the Bill was passed in Parliament, the Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Bill 2005, stipulating stringent penalties for manufacturing and marketing spurious drugs, will be notified by the Union Health Ministry in a day or two as the Union Health Minister, Ghulam Nabi Azad has signed the notification. According to sources, as the minister has signed the notification, it may now appear in India's official Gazette any time now. Once it is notified, the peddlers of spurious drugs will face life imprisonment and/or fine of Rs10 lakh or three times the value of the drugs confiscated, whichever is more.

India: In 2009, Tamilnadu colleges offering Pharma D courses hike fees by 80%

The Private Pharmacy Colleges which are conducting the integrated Pharm D Course in Tamil Nadu have increased the course fee for both six year and three year (Post Baccalaureate) Pharm D programme by 80% in this academic year. Those colleges, which collected a sum of Rs 50,000 and Rs 75,000 for the first year term in 2008, are charging an amount around Rs1 lakh and above from the 2009 batches towards fee for first year. While this hike affects the six year course Pharm D, fee for the three-year Post Baccalaureate has been raised to Rs 1 25 lakh by these Colleges, it is learnt.

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CREMA plans to launch Third Party Audit training programme

The Mumbai-based Clinical Research Education and Management Academy (CREMA), one of the major clinical research educational institutions in the country, is planning to commence third party audit (TPA) training programme and services to support the fast growing clinical research segment in the country for quality assurance. The institute, which is already offering training programmes in a wide spectrum of pharmaceutical segment to equip the companies with skilled manpower, is in very early stage of designing training module for third party audit for various quality related programmes with the international standards. Once launched the training programme, the institution will also enter into selling TPA services.

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Product Focus – Extavia (Interferon beta-1b)

Extavia (Interferon beta-1b)

Introduction

Extavia is a branded version of interferon beta-1b, which is a first-line disease-modifying therapy for treating Multiple Sclerosis (MS). The drug is indicated for the treatment of MS patients with relapsing forms of the disease and for newly diagnosed patients. The active ingredient of the drug, interferon beta-1b is in direct competition with other betaferons such as Bayer Schering's Betaseron, Biogen's Avonex and Merck Seronos' Rebif. The drug was first launched in January in Europe. The active ingredient of the drug slows disease progression in some patients. Major markets for MS therapy are Canada, the US, Germany, Norway, Hungary, and the UK. MS is slowly spreading its reach in the Asian regions. Asia can be a potential market in future.



The drug treats multiple sclerosis

The drug is the first in a new portfolio of medicines from Novartis that is planned to include both established treatments and innovative therapies for patients with MS. MS is one of the most common disorders of the central nervous system in young adults. It is a progressive and debilitating disorder caused by the destruction of myelin, which helps neurons carry electrical signals in the brain. As a result, MS causes problems with

muscle control and strength, vision, balance, sensation and cognitive functions. MS occurs in elapsing forms involving acute self-limiting attacks of neurological dysfunction (or "relapses") followed by complete or partial restoration of functions. Gender has become a dominant factor in MS during the last decades. The studies have proved that MS prevalence rate is higher in women than man, but the cause of the disease has not been found.

Side effects

The drug is a novel, once-daily oral MS treatment, fingolimod, which is a widely used injectible drug. Extavia should be used with caution in patients with depression. Injection site necrosis has been reported in 4% of patients in controlled trials. Typically, injection site necrosis occurs within the first four months of therapy. Necrosis may occur at a single injection site or multiple injection sites. Patient understanding and use of aseptic self-injection techniques and procedures should be periodically re-evaluated, particularly if injection site necrosis has occurred. Anaphylaxis has been reported as a rare complication of interferon use.

Other allergic reactions have included dyspnea, bronchospasm, tongue edema, skin rash, and urticaria. The rate of flu-like symptom complex was approximately 57% in the four controlled clinical trials. The incidence decreased over time, with only 10% of patients reporting flu-like symptom complex at the end of the studies. During the therapy, monitoring of complete blood and differential white blood cell counts, platelet counts and blood chemistries, including liver function tests, are recommended at regular intervals. The most commonly reported adverse reactions are lymphopenia, injection site reaction, asthenia, flu-like symptom complex, headache and pain. The drug may also pose potential risk to pregnancy.

Drug Details	
Drug Brand Name	Extavia
Active Ingredient	Interferon beta-1b
Company Name	Novartis
Tentative Approval Date	19th August, 2009
Chemical Type	Existing Molecular Entity
Administration type	Injection
Patent Rights	Yes
Patent Expired	2012

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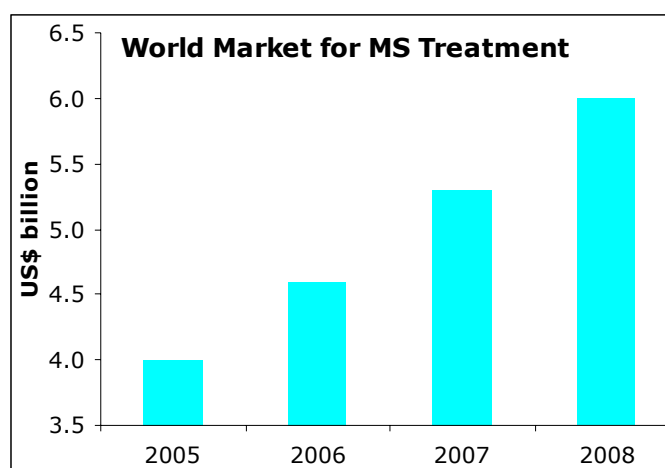
Market size

Interferon beta-1b has been available globally for more than 13 years and was formerly known as NVF233. The first beta interferon was marketed by Bayer-Schering for the treatment of MS under the name, Betaferon®/Betaseron®. The drug is the same medicine as Extavia. Novartis gained rights to its own branded version of this medicine in agreements with Bayer-Schering related to the acquisition of Chiron. Extavia was launched in line with an agreement of Bayer-Schering that established the opportunity for Novartis to introduce its own branded version of interferon beta-1b in August 2009. Another innovative therapy for MS that is expected to be marketed by Novartis in the future is FTY720 (fingolimod), which is the innovative oral therapy.

Novartis has already started selling Extavia in Europe, and is paying Bayer royalties on the sales. Novartis hopes to differentiate Extavia by offering patients extra support, including one-on-one training in how to give oneself an injection, and some financial assistance if a patient can not get his insurance to cover Extavia. In 2008, the sales of Extavia in Europe totalled US\$12m and are expected to rise significantly in 2009 with the launch of the drug in the US. Novartis does not expect Extavia to be a blockbuster, or billion dollar seller, but it helps build commercial experience in MS ahead of the potential launch of FTY720.

MS treatment market

MS treatment market across seven major markets in 2007 reached over US\$5.3 billion from the base of around US\$4.6 billion in 2006. The growth in the MS treatment market is fuelled by the highly successful beta-interferon brands, Teva's Copaxone (glatiramer acetate), and the recent relaunch of Tysabri; the first launch of a new MS treatment for six years. As Extavia is recently launched, it is not expected to have any significant impact on the MS market in recent times but would gain significant share of the market over the coming years.



Source: reports.pharmalicensing.com; Cygnus Research

In the European Union, Extavia is available in 12 countries and is approved for relapsing-remitting MS as well as early MS (defined as a single demyelinating event with an active inflammatory process) and a steadily worsening form of the disease known as secondary progressive MS with relapses. In the US, around 400,000 patients are estimated to be suffering from MS, of whom more than 80% have relapsing-remitting MS. Interferon beta-1b has been shown to reduce annualised relapse rates by 34%, with patients nearly twice as likely to remain relapse-free for more than two years compared to those receiving placebo.

Competition

Major competitors of Extavia for the treatment of relapsing form of MS are Avonex from Biogen Idec, Rebif from Merck Serono, and Copaxone (glatiramer acetate) from Teva, Betaferon from Bayer-Schering, and Tysabri. MS drugs are expected to progress from injectible forms to orally-administered that would enhance the ease of administration. New drug releases and reformulations of products will seek to increase therapeutic effectiveness, especially patient compliance. A new wave of oral drugs, currently in development, may well change the way MS treatments are delivered.

Major Drugs for MS

- Avonex
- Rebif
- Betaferon
- Extavia
- Copaxone

Source: reports.pharmalicensing.com; Cygnus Research

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Indian Scenario

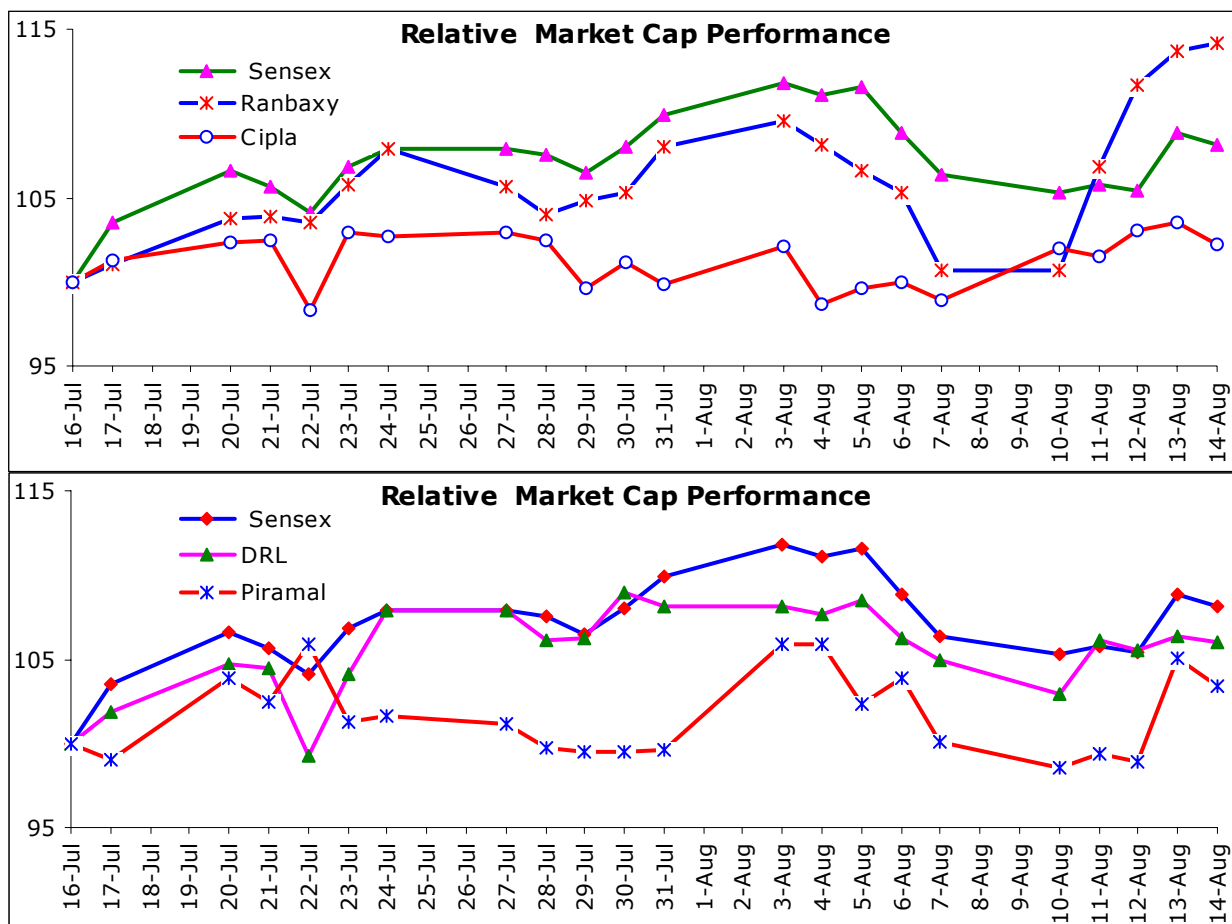
MS drugs market is quite small with Serum International being the authorised distributor for Rebif, a drug used for the treatment of multiple sclerosis. Serum International Ltd, a subsidiary of the Pune-based Serum Institute of India, is engaged in the manufacturing of vaccines. The drug Extavia is yet to enter in the Indian market, which poses a lot of potential for the drug. A patent application for Copaxone (glatiramer acetate), a multiple sclerosis drug marketed worldwide by Israel-based Teva Pharmaceuticals Industries in India, was blocked by India's Natco Pharma in March 2009. MS belongs to the central nervous system (CNS) disorder category and the total CNS drugs market in India reached around Rs12 billion in 2007. Major players in the segment are: Sun Pharmaceuticals, Torrent Pharma, Abbot India, and Lundbeck India. Other players which are making major inroads into this market are: Intas Pharmaceuticals, Micro and Sanofi-Synthelabo India, USV and Elder Pharmaceuticals.

Outlook

Only about 36% of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) patients are currently treated with MS drugs, this percentage is expected to increase to 56% by 2014 as new oral MS therapies are launched, which shows bright opportunity for oral drugs in multiple sclerosis market. The UK is expected to be one of the promising markets for MS treatment in the coming years. Currently, the country accounts for only 1.1% of the total MS treatment market in the world. Worldwide, MS treatment revenues are expected to exceed US\$9 billion during the second half of next decade. The prevalence and onset of MS in children and adults is expected to rise steadily. This would further drive up the market for MS treatment in the world. An increase in the number of aged people, increased life expectancy, unmet clinical needs together with advances in treatments of neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer and Parkinson disease will continue to contribute to the expansion of the global market for MS treatment.

Extavia is expected to face direct competition from the later launch of additional oral pipeline disease-modifiers, which will represent tough direct competition from 2012 onwards, leading to decline in sales.

Stock Scan



Source: BSE India; Cygnus Research

	15 Jul-26 Jul	27 Jul- 02 Aug	03 Aug-09 Aug	10 Aug-14 Aug
SENSEX	Sensex ended on a positive note during this period on increased capital inflow by funds.	Improving global cues made Sensex to register gain during this period.	Sensex ended on a negative note during this period, as realty, metals, auto, infrastructure stocks had not been performed well.	Investors remain Bullish during this period and buying seen in the market. Sensex gained during this period.
Ranbaxy	Share prices of the company have increased by 7.85%.	Share prices increased by 2.24%.	Share prices declined by 8.15%.	Share prices soared by 13.47%.
Cipla	Share prices increased by 2.68%.	Share prices declined by 2.94%.	Share prices declined by 3.17%.	Share prices by the end of the week have shown a slight positive change of 0.2%.

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DRL	Share prices soared by 7.89%.	Share prices by the end of the week have shown a slight positive change of 0.26%.	Share prices declined by 2.94%.	Share prices increased by 2.95%.
Piramal	Share prices increased by 1.62%.	Share prices declined by 1.51%.	Share prices declined by 5.53%.	Share prices increased by 4.94%.

Regulatory Issues

REGULATIONS

AMERICAS

Canada: Ambrilia Biopharma obtains an extension of CCAA stay order

Ambrilia Biopharma announced that it has obtained an order from the Superior Court of Quebec extending in its effect the initial order issued by the Court on July 31, 2009, until October 30, 2009, the whole pursuant to the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act. The purpose of this extension is to provide Ambrilia with an opportunity to develop, file a plan of arrangement for consideration by its creditors and complete its restructuring process.

Europe

Italy: Cambrex' Milan API plant gets FDA warning

US chemicals maker, Cambrex will hope an FDA warning letter concerning its Italian manufacturing plant will not increase the pressure on its generic active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) business. The facility in question, which is located in Milan and was acquired in 1994, makes a wide range of generic APIs, supplying pharmaceutical manufacturers in key markets like the US, Japan and Europe. The firm went on to explain that the FDA may withhold approval of generic APIs made at the plant and block their importation into the US until the observations are resolved. Cambrex is confident it can resolve the issues in the allotted time. However, any extra delay may hurt its generic API business which already faces price and volume pressures due to competitive supply chain dynamics.

Asia pacific

NPPA revises prices of five bulk drugs and 240 formulation packs

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has revised/fixed the prices of five bulk drugs used in medicines for pneumonia and pain killers. The national drug price regulator has also revised the prices of 240 formulation packs. The 240 formulation packs for which prices were revised on September 14 included the formulations based on bulk drugs: ascorbic acid (vitamin C) with combinations, theophylline with combinations, rifampicin with combinations, acetyl salicylic acid (Aspirin) with combinations, salbutamol with combinations, multivitamin, etophylline with combinations, metronidazole with combinations, cloxacillin with combinations, Aspirin with combinations, sulphadimidine, ibuprofen with combinations, dexamethasone with combinations, vitamin E with combinations, Solu Medrol/Depo Medrol/Medrol (methyl prednisolone), Daivobet (betamethasone), Lantus/Apidra (insulin), Vitalux Plus TR (multivitamin), Recosulin (monocomponent insulin), Lupisulin (monocomponent insulin), Beplex Forte Elixir (multivitamin), Calron (multivitamin), Naunchal Baby Tonic (multivitamin), Gamone (multivitamin) and Cinkara (multivitamin).

Centre to amend Medicine Central Council Act to accord legal status to Sowa-Rigpa system of medicine

The Centre has approved the Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2009 for amending the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 to recognise the Sowa-Rigpa system of medicine, popular in the Himalayan region of India. The Bill has got the approval of the union cabinet, it will be introduced in Parliament in its next session which is scheduled to meet somewhere in November. 'Sowa-Rigpa', commonly known as 'Amchi', is one of the oldest surviving systems of medicine in the world, popular in the Himalayan region of India.

A joint Initiative by **IPA** and **Cygnus** to enable Pharma Professionals to be more successful

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Upcoming Events

1	Event	Expo Medical
	Date	Sep 10-12, 2009
	Venue	La Rural Predio Ferial, Buenos Aires, Argentina
	Highlights	Expo Medical is the only show in Argentina where a complete range of new and innovative products and services in medical technology and IT equipment, diagnostics, rehabilitation, nursing and consumer medicine are in display.
	Contact Details	Mercoferias Srl. Corrientes, Olivos, Argentina Tel: +(54)-(11)-47998087; Fax: +(54)-(11)-47906446
2	Event	Info Dental
	Date	Sep 11-12, 2009
	Venue	Dusseldorf Exhibition Centre, Dusseldorf, Nordrhein-Westfalen Germany
	Highlights	Info Dental is a great opportunity for all companies in the dental industry to promote their products and services to anyone involved in the business of dentistry. Product will display stomatological equipment & tools, stomatological expenditures & medicines, modern technologies in dentistry, organisation & equipping of dental rooms & clinics, and service maintenance of dental specialities.
	Contact Details	Messe Dusseldorf GmbH. Stockumer Kirchstrasse, 61, Messeplatz, Germany Tel: +(49)-(211)-4560900; Fax: +(49)-(211)-4560668 E-mail: infoservice@messe-duesseldorf.de; Web: www.messe-duesseldorf.de
3	Event	Biotechnica
	Date	Oct 06-11, 2009
	Venue	Hannover Fairgrounds, Hannover, Germany
	Highlights	Biotechnica is the ideal platform where suppliers of equipment & consumables will meet engineers, research-personnel & procurement managers of Indian biotec-companies. BIOTECHNICA mirrors the successful development of one of the most important sectors of the future. More and more exhibitors and visitors from across the globe are taking advantage of Europe's leading biotechnology event.
	Contact details	Deutsche Messe AG, Messsegelände, 30521, Hannover, Germany Tel: +(49)-(511)-890; Fax: +(49)-(511)-8932626
4	Event	PHARMACY
	Date	Oct 07-09, 2009
	Venue	Lenexpo Fairgrounds, St. Petersburg, Russia
	Highlights	The international exhibition Pharmacy is the largest exhibition on public healthcare in the Northwest Region of Russia. The exhibition promotes the development of co-operation and the establishment of contacts in the area of medicine between the Russian and the international community and has a priority status for Saint Petersburg. Pharmacy 2005, expected to start with a full house of 140 exhibitors promising to showcase more new products and brands than seen in years previous.
	Contact details	Primexpo. Russia, Saint Petersburg, 23, Malaya Morskaya Street, "Belye nochii" Business-Center, Belye Nochi, Russia. Tel: +(7)-(812)-3806000; Fax: +(7)-(812)-3806001

5	Event	Health & Lifestyle Expo
	Date	Oct 07-10, 2009
	Venue	Sydney Showground, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
	Highlights	The Health and Lifestyle Exhibition will be a unique opportunity to target 25,000 sporting individuals under one roof. For exhibitors, it is a fabulous chance to showcase new products and services to like-minded individuals who take pride in maintaining a healthy lifestyle.
	Contact Details	The Intermedia Group Pty Ltd. Unit 39, 100 Harris, Pyrmont, Australia Tel: +(61)-(2)-96602113; Fax: +(61)-(2)-96604419
6	Event	West African Health (WAH)
	Date	Oct 07-09, 2009
	Venue	The New Expo Centre, Ademola Street, PMB 12724, Lagos, Nigeria
	Highlights	West African Health (WAH) is an International healthcare event that plays a key facilitating role in the provision of health services and technology in the West African region. An international exhibition and conference that has found its niche as an important business to health forum for healthcare decision makers & solution providers.
	Contact Details	Global resources & Projects Nig. Ltd. 40, Adegbola Street, Anifowose, Lagos, Nigeria. Tel: +(234)-(1)-4800305; Fax: +(234)-(1)-2557542
7	Event	CPHI Worldwide
	Date	Oct 13-15, 2009
	Venue	Feria de Madrid, Comunidad De Madrid, Madrid, Spain
	Highlights	CPHI Worldwide is the most comprehensive exhibition of manufacturers of active pharmaceutical ingredients, intermediates, excipients and natural extracts in the world. It also brings together experts in custom manufacturing and marketing services.
	Contact Details	CMP Asia Limited. 17/F, China Resources Building, 26 Harbour, Wanchai, China (Hong Kong S.A.R.) Tel: +(852)-(2827)-6211/25161677; Fax: +(852)-(2827)-7831/28029934
8	Event	BioPh: Bio-solutions for pharma
	Date	Oct 13-15, 2009
	Venue	Feria de Madrid, IFEMA Feria de Madrid Feria de, Madrid, Spain
	Highlights	BioPh: Bio-solutions for pharma is a leading exhibition for Bio process and pharmaceutical industry. The BioPh: Bio-solutions for pharma expo will be at Feria de Madrid, Spain.
	Contact Details	United Business Media plc. Ludgate House, 245 Blackfriars Road, London, United Kingdom. Tel: +(44)-(20)-79215067
9	Event	International Dental Exhibition & Meeting (IDEM India 2009)
	Date	Oct 23-25, 2009
	Venue	Bombay Exhibition Centre - NSE Exhibition Complex, Mumbai, Maharashtra
	Highlights	This exhibition will present dentists, dental technicians and specialist dealers from the South Asian region with a comprehensive overview of the entire spectrum of innovative products, processes and know-how. Parallel to the exhibition user-oriented workshops will also take place which will highlight the scientific developments in the area of dentistry and dental technology.
	Contact Details	Koelnmesse YA Tradefair Pvt Ltd. B-501-502, Kemp Plaza, Mind Space Chincholi Bunder Extn., Off. Link Road, Malad (West), Mumbai - 400 064, India. Tel: +(91)-(22)-42107802; Fax: +(91)-(22)-40034433

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