

1. Chemists cannot charge old rates for cheaper drugs

– Hindustan Times
(link not available)

It's official. Your local pharmacist may no longer be able to charge old rates for medicines whose prices have been reduced by the government. According to a notification issued by the National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) dated April 13, the onus of implementing the revised price has shifted to chemists from drug makers. Companies now need to only notify new price lists to chemists through company websites, emails and other sources.

Chemists will not be allowed to sell drugs to consumers at a price exceeding the one specified in the latest price

list or price indicated on the label of the packet, whichever is less. In case of non-compliance, chemists will be penalised. HT reported first on February 26 that that government may make chemists liable to pass on drug price cuts to buyers. In the earlier regime, the manufacturer had to recall all existing batches of a medicine within 45 days of the price notification, put new stickers and redistribute the packages. "It took Rs 4 crore for a single-time recall and re-labelling. Thankfully, now the companies have option not to recall and re-label the old stocks," said DG Shah, secretary-general, Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance.

2. [Pharma Inc Plans Legal Action Against NPPA on Price Cuts](#) – Economic Times

The IPA filed a review petition with DoP on March 2 regarding the price cuts proposed by the NPPA. According to Shah, NPPA has taken certain actions which are unlawful and arbitrary. In absence of any response from the NPPA, the association will be left with no choice but to approach the court as a last resort.

3. [Glenmark receives 3 observations from USFDA](#) – Mint

The US Food and Drug Administration has shared observations to Glenmark Pharma for its formulations facility at Pithampur near Indore. The company didn't specify the nature of the observations made in Form 483.

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2. [Pharma Inc Plans Legal Action Against NPPA on Price Cuts](#) – Economic Times
3. [Glenmark receives 3 observations from USFDA](#) – Mint
4. [US Food and Drug Administration issues data integrity notice to Indian CRO Semler](#) – Economic Times
5. [India's trade deal with ASEAN countries could block access to affordable medicines](#): MSF – ibtimes.com
6. [Anti-dumping duty likely on a chemical used by pharma industry](#) – The Hindu
7. [Commerce ministry launches 'Twitter Seva' to respond to industry queries](#) – Mint
8. [NATHEALTH reports key requirement to battle diabetes](#) – Times of India
9. [Chandigarh: Affordable medicine outlet at PGI awaits fresh opening date](#) – Indian Express
10. [Lok Satta round table on 'Health for All' at Delhi](#) – The Hindu
11. [UK agency backs cancer drug after Sanofi cuts price](#) – Reuters

4. [US Food and Drug Administration issues data integrity notice to Indian CRO Semler](#) – Economic Times
US Food and Drug Administration has pulled up Semler accusing the company of data manipulation. This incident has resemblance to the actions of European Medicines Agency against GVK Biosciences. Inspections at Semler between Sept – Oct 2015 found significant instances of misconduct and violations of federal regulations, including the substitution and manipulation of study subject samples. Companies that have filed for drug approval based on data supplied by Semler Research are told to repeat the studies elsewhere.
5. [India's trade deal with ASEAN countries could block access to affordable medicines](#): MSF – ibtimes.com
Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) sounded alarm on Wednesday that the discussions to be held during the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) from April 24 in Perth, Australia, could restrict the access of affordable medicines from India to millions of people across the world. "Proposals in the RCEP negotiations are trying to introduce the IP measures far tougher on access to medicines than what is required under international trade rules," said Leena Menghaney, South Asia head of MSF's Access Campaign. The MSF said that the measures could harm the access to affordable medicines, especially when India is a part of the RCEP negotiations.
6. [Anti-dumping duty likely on a chemical used by pharma industry](#) – The Hindu
In order to protect domestic manufacturers, Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties has recommended the revenue department to impose levy ranging between \$122.14 and \$279.78 per tonne on the imports of 'Methylene Chloride'. The product is used in the manufacturing of rayon yarn, pharmaceuticals, agro and fragrance. It is also used as an extractant for edible fats, cocoa, butter and essences.
7. [Commerce ministry launches 'Twitter Seva' to respond to industry queries](#) – Mint
With the launch of 'Twitter Seva' Commerce and industry Minister Nirmala Sitharaman would try to respond to queries within 48 to 72 working hours. Issues related to manufacturing policy, industrial corridors, investment promotion, Make in India, Start-up India, foreign direct investment and intellectual property rights will be addressed by the DIPP. For assistance from the ministry one can use hashtag #mociseva.
8. [NATHEALTH reports key requirement to battle diabetes](#) – Times of India
The report has emphasized the need for high-impact interventions, multi-stakeholder engagement and effective awareness programmes to check life threatening disease. Anjan Bose, Secretary General, NATHEALTH said, "Government is focusing on ensuring multi-stakeholder engagement for prevention, check and care to make India a healthy country."
9. [Chandigarh: Affordable medicine outlet at PGI awaits fresh opening date](#) – Indian Express
The outlet supposed to be inaugurated by Health Minister JP Nadda on Feb 28 yet awaits the Ministers confirmation. The second Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) outlet is ready to provide drugs for cancer and cardiovascular diseases at lower prices.
10. [Lok Satta round table on 'Health for All' at Delhi](#) – The Hindu
Detailed plan of action plan prepared by Jayaprakash Narayan led Loksatta and Foundation for Democratic Reforms elaborates on making quality health services access to all in the country, from major cities to remote areas free-of-cost. It will be discussed with experts in the 'Round Table' conference to be held at Delhi on April 23 in front of the Niti Aayog.
11. [UK agency backs cancer drug after Sanofi cuts price](#) – Reuters
Britain's healthcare cost watchdog NICE said on Friday it had changed its mind and decided to recommend Sanofi's prostate cancer drug Jevtana after the French company agreed to a further discount. NICE, which has taken a firm stance on the issue of the cost-effectiveness of costly new medicines, did not give details of the latest price reduction.