

1. [Old pharma sees new profit cure in cancer drugs](#) – Reuters

Some of the world's largest drug companies are taking out their checkbooks for acquisitions of smaller peers whose cancer drugs have the potential to cure not just patients, but corporate growth prospects as well. After decades in which progress meant extending life by weeks or months, new cancer treatments hold promise of adding years to patients' lives and billions of dollars in revenue to the companies that own them. Some of the most promising, known as immunotherapy, harness the body's own defense system to fight cancer.

2. [Novartis, world's top drugmaker, plays down Brexit threat](#) – Reuters

Switzerland's Novartis, the world's biggest maker of prescription drugs, will continue to invest in Britain, despite the country's decision to leave the European Union, its chief executive said on Tuesday. Joe Jimenez also told reporters he expected the European Medicines Agency (EMA), currently based in London, to continue its work on approving new medicines in an "orderly" fashion, even though it is likely to have to move to a new location.

3. [Pricing dispute hits supply of TB drugs in Pakistan](#) – Reuters

Swiss pharmaceuticals firm Novartis AG said it has stopped making tuberculosis drugs in Pakistan in a dispute over pricing, prompting fears of a health crisis due to a shortage of drugs in a country with the world's fifth-highest TB rates. As in many developing countries, the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) sets prices for about 320 critical medicines. But pricing caps have not been significantly raised since 2001, making it unviable for firms to make many of the drugs.

4. [FDA panel backs Valeant psoriasis drug with risk program](#) – Reuters

Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc's experimental drug to treat the skin disorder psoriasis should be approved as long as certain measures are put in place to mitigate the risk of

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5. [Celgene to collaborate with tiny Jounce on cancer immunotherapy](#) – Reuters
6. [Dr Reddy's and NPPA battle at Delhi High Court over blood pressure drug's price](#) – The Times of India
7. ['Innovation key to step up drugs export to US'](#) – The Hindu Business Line
8. [Indian pharma majors fail drug test](#) – Hindustan Times
9. [IT has created transparency and improved access to healthcare: Nivesh Khandelwal](#) – ETHealthworld.com
10. [DoP agrees to AIOCD's demand for allowing sale of drugs at pre-revised prices until their batch number expires](#) – Pharmabiz.com
11. [TN govt to implement various health schemes to make the state 'disease-free' in six years: Dr J Radhakrishnan](#) – Pharmabiz.com
12. [Roche's phase III study of Gazyva/Gazyvaro in people with previously untreated diffuse large B-cell lymphoma fails to meet primary endpoint](#) – Pharmabiz.com

suicide, an advisory committee to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration concluded on Tuesday. The FDA is not obliged to follow the advice of its advisory committees but typically does so. Abbott, the second largest drug maker in India, is hunting for a buyer to sell its tail-end brands, a move that highlights the consolidation woes of large acquisitions in India, according to two people familiar with the development.

5. [Celgene to collaborate with tiny Jounce on cancer immunotherapy](#) – Reuters

Privately held Jounce Therapeutics Inc, which is working on treatments designed to use a patients' own immune systems to better attack cancer, said on Tuesday it had entered into a collaboration and investment agreement with Celgene Corp worth more than \$2.5 billion. The deal for the tiny Cambridge, Massachusetts-based company comes just at little more than three years after it was launched with funding from life sciences investor Third Rock Ventures.

6. [Dr Reddy's and NPPA battle at Delhi High Court over blood pressure drug's price](#) – The Times of India

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) wrongfully revised the ceiling price of amlodipine, a tablet to treat high blood pressure and chest pains (angina), alleged Indian drug maker Dr Reddy's at the Delhi High Court on July 19. On its part, NPPA said that its decision was correct according to the provisions of the country's Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO) 2013.

7. ['Innovation key to step up drugs export to US'](#) – The Hindu Business Line

To increase pharmaceutical export to the US, industries and the government should innovate and invest more on research and development of new drugs, say industry experts. Speaking at a seminar on 'The march towards \$500 billion trade' organised by the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, J Jayaseelan, Chairman, Indian Drug Manufacturers Association - Tamil Nadu, said though the country leads in terms of generic drug manufacturing impetus should be given to drug discovery to boost exports. India exports \$5 billion worth generic drugs to the US, accounting for about 40 per cent of the drugs in the US market. India is the third largest exporter of generics but ranks 14th in terms of value. "Focus on drug discovery and capability building will increase the value of Indian drugs and improve exports," Jayaseelan said.

8. [Indian pharma majors fail drug test](#) – Hindustan Times

Medicines made by Indian pharmaceutical companies including Cipla, Pfizer, Dr Reddy's, Lupin and Sun Pharmaceuticals among others have failed quality tests conducted by the drug controller general of India (DCGI), the apex drug standards body. DCGI has launched an aggressive inspections drive against over 200 drug makers after testing 60,000 drug samples from across India under its not of standard quality (NSQ) survey. The names of the drugs were not revealed. The list of companies also include Mankind Pharma, Macleod sand Wockhardt.

9. [IT has created transparency and improved access to healthcare: Nivesh Khandelwal](#) – EHealthworld.com

"From a patient's perspective, IT has created a lot of transparency and improved access to healthcare. Earlier to go to a doctor the patient would have to call up a relative or call up people in order to understand which doctor is good and where they can go. Now they can just log on to the internet and check on the websites that are available, see which doctor he wants to go to, see the rating and then visit that doctor without having to call up many people," said Nivesh Khandelwal, Founder, LetsMD.

10. [DoP agrees to AIOCD's demand for allowing sale of drugs at pre-revised prices until their batch number expires](#) – Pharmabiz.com

The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) has agreed in-principle to All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists (AIOCD)'s demand for allowing sale of medicines, whose ceiling prices have been revised by NPPA, at their pre-revised prices until their batch number expires. At present, the chemists who are found selling drugs at pre-revised prices are liable for

prosecution by state drug regulators, said AIOCD general secretary Suresh Gupta. On the other hand, manufacturers are often reluctant to provide wholesalers/retailers list of revised prices of the drugs, the prices of which have been revised by the NPPA, he rued. In a bid to protect retailers against harassment by the state drug regulators, AIOCD had urged the DoP to allow chemists to sell drugs at pre-revised prices until their batch number expires.

11. [TN govt to implement various health schemes to make the state 'disease-free' in six years: Dr J Radhakrishnan – Pharmabiz.com](#)

With a strategic vision to safeguard the entire population of the state from all kinds of infectious diseases and other ailments, the government of Tamil Nadu is moving ahead with several significant projects and programs on health and pharmacy areas. The Vision 2023 of the government envisages Tamil Nadu to become a 'disease-free state' in another six years, and escalate it into the level of developed countries of the world in the areas of health and pharmacy, according to Dr J Radhakrishnan, secretary for health and family welfare, government of Tamil Nadu. While delivering a lecture as the chief guest of the function at the Silver Jubilee celebration of the Tamil Nadu Pharmaceutical Sciences Welfare Trust (TNPWT) in Chennai, Dr Radhakrishnan said the pharma industry in the state must give more focus on innovations and invention of new drugs. The government is working out new strategies for innovation and priority is for innovation in biotechnology. The government has special programmes and policies for biotechnology. IDMA president SV Veeramani presided over the event. Special address was given by Dr Shylesh Ayyangar, managing director of Sanofi India Ltd and president of OPPI. J Jayaseelan, MM Yusuf, S Abdul Khader, Dr S Manivannan, R Thiruvankadam and Swapna Sunder also spoke in the event.

12. [Roche's phase III study of Gazyva/Gazyvaro in people with previously untreated diffuse large B-cell lymphoma fails to meet primary endpoint – Pharmabiz.com](#)

Roche announced that the phase III GOYA study evaluating Gazyva/Gazyvaro (obinutuzumab) plus CHOP chemotherapy (G-CHOP) in people with previously untreated diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) did not meet its primary endpoint of significantly reducing the risk of disease worsening or death (progression-free survival; PFS) compared to MabThera/Rituxan (rituximab) plus CHOP chemotherapy (R-CHOP). Adverse events with Gazyva/Gazyvaro and MabThera/Rituxan were consistent with those seen in previous clinical trials when each was combined with various chemotherapies. Data from the GOYA study will be presented at an upcoming medical meeting. "Two previous studies showed Gazyva/Gazyvaro helped people with previously untreated follicular lymphoma or chronic lymphocytic leukaemia live longer without their disease worsening compared to MabThera/Rituxan, when each was combined with chemotherapy. We were hopeful we could show a similar result for people with diffuse large B-cell lymphoma and once again improve on the standard of care," said Sandra Horning, MD, chief medical officer and head of global product development. "We will continue to analyse the GOYA data to better understand the results, and to study other investigational treatments in this disease with the goal of further helping these patients."