

1. [DoP again extends voluntary implementation of UCPMP by pharma companies till December 2015](#) - Pharmabiz

Pharmabiz

Even as the department of pharmaceuticals (DoP) is engaged in discussions with the stakeholders to make the Uniform Code of Pharmaceuticals Marketing Practices (UCPMP) compulsory for pharma companies in the country, the department has once again extended the voluntarily implementation of UCPMP by four months till December 31, 2015.

Earlier, the department had extended the voluntarily implementation of UCPMP by two months from July 1 to August 31, 2015. The department had implemented the UCPMP voluntarily for a period of six months with effect from January 1, 2015 which came to an end on June 30, 2015

2. [Indian Alliance of Patient Groups \(IAPG\) Launched to Facilitate Patient Engagement](#)

- Press Trust of India

Indian Patient Groups Unite to Make Their Voices Heard

Indian Alliance of Patient Groups (IAPG), an umbrella body of 12 patient groups working in the areas of rare disorders and chronic diseases, was launched today in Mumbai with member groups spread across India. IAPG aims to promote and facilitate patient engagement with healthcare providers and policy makers. Speaking on the occasion of the launch, Dr.

Ratna Devi, founding member of IAPG, said: "In discussions on healthcare in India, the industry, policy-makers and medical associations drive the conversations, missing the most important stakeholder - the patient. Uninformed about their rights, Indian patients most times do not have a voice or a forum to raise their voice on healthcare issues. IAPG will represent this often ignored group and help channelise the conversations on healthcare to enhance quality of life and dignity for the patient."

3. [IAPG launched in Mumbai to promote patient engagement with healthcare providers & policy makers](#) - Pharmabiz

With an aim to promote and facilitate patient engagement with healthcare providers and policy makers, Indian Alliance of Patient Groups (IAPG), an umbrella body of 12 patient groups working in the areas of rare disorders and chronic diseases, was launched in Mumbai.

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4. [We want an efficient, transparent and predictable regime: IPA general secretary](#) - Business Standard

5. [India, US to work on regulatory info exchange](#) - Hindu Business Line

6. [For Glenmark, worries in the short term](#) - Business Standard

7. [India seeks more trade, investments from S America, Caribbeans](#) - Times of India

8. [Roche plans to step up India play, launches two new medicines](#) - Economic Times

9. [Bringing Innovation To The Centre-Stage](#) - Daily Pioneer

10. [Indian court blocks generic of Merck's Januvia](#) - PMLive

Some of the prominent members of IAPG include DakshamA Health and Education, New Delhi; Association of Community Pharmacists of India, Mangalore; Multiple Sclerosis Society of India, Mumbai; and Indian Patients Society for Primary Immunodeficiency, Bhubaneswar.

With member groups spread across India, IAPG has drawn up a broad action plan in accordance with their mission to facilitate and ensure a safe, effective, reliable patient-centred health system in India that provides timely access to the best available interventions for prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care.

4. [We want an efficient, transparent and predictable regime: IPA general secretary](#) – Business Standard

The Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA) represents the top 20 research-based national pharmaceutical companies. Collectively, it accounts for almost 85% of the private sector investment in domestic pharmaceutical research and development. It accounts for 60% of the country's exports of drugs and pharmaceuticals and services about 45% of the domestic market. Dilip G Shah, secretary general of IPA, in an e-mail interaction with Gireesh Babu, talks about IPA's views on various issues including price regulation.

5. [India, US to work on regulatory info exchange](#) – Hindu Business Line

India and the US will work on establishing a channel of communication between the regulatory bodies of the two countries. The aim is to minimise instances of sudden restrictions imposed on exports of agricultural products and pharmaceuticals.

At the recent India-US Strategic and Commercial Dialogue in Washington, it was decided that the working group on standards — one of the six groups established to strengthen bilateral ties — will work on a mechanism for regular exchanges between the regulators of both sides.

6. [For Glenmark, worries in the short term](#) – Business Standard

The Glenmark Pharmaceuticals stock shed four per cent in trade on Thursday, after the Delhi high court restrained it from selling two diabetes drugs for patent infringement. US-based drug major Merck Sharp and Dohme had sought an order against the sale of the two drugs, Zita and Zita-Met, used in treating type-2 diabetes, saying they contained salts similar to Sitagliptin, its patented drug. The drug is estimated to have a market size of about Rs 400 crore. Zita and Zita-Met are among the top 10 brands of Glenmark and among the fastest-growing, with annual sales of Rs 44 crore and Rs 64 crore, respectively.

7. [India seeks more trade, investments from S America, Caribbeans](#) – Times of India

India on Thursday sought investments from Latin American nations while emphasising upon the need to strengthen the existing trade pacts to boost economic ties between the two regions. Commerce secretary Rita Teatota said India and MERCOSUR bloc have already entered into an agreement but that pact is very limited.

Further she pointed that Indian pharmaceutical companies are facing problems in that region. India is recognised as a pharmacy of the world in terms of high quality and affordable generic medicines which help to reduce health cost, she added. "But our access to healthcare market in Latin America has so far been somewhat hampered in some countries owing to many of the existing regulations which have resulted in delays in registrations. I would urge the leadership to have a look at some of these issues. It should be a win-win for both sides," she said.

8. [Roche plans to step up India play, launches two new medicines](#) – Economic Times

Roche, the \$49-billion Swiss biologic drugs giant, is stepping up its India play by rolling out two new products that will be backed by financial assistance and market access programmes, a strategy the drug maker believes will help it reach out to patients in need of advanced treatments.

Roche's latest plans to devise innovative access models and a differential pricing structure for its drugs is a departure from its policy a few years ago that left little scope for flexible pricing for developing markets such as India.

9. [Bringing Innovation To The Centre-Stage](#) – Daily Pioneer

One of the initiative proposed by Union Minister for Finance Arun Jaitley in his Budget speech for the fiscal year 2015-2016 was the establishment of the Atal Innovation Mission, the purpose of which would be to provide an innovation promotion platform, involving academics, entrepreneurs and researchers and draw upon national and international experiences to foster a culture of innovation, research and development and scientific research in India. A sum of Rs150 crore was proposed by Mr Jaitley for this purpose.

This is certainly a good beginning, and ostensibly recognises the value of innovation to ensure that higher growth of the Indian economy is driven by scientific and technological developments, establishing a competitive edge in the international market and reaching higher efficiency in the use of various resources.

10. [Indian court blocks generic of Merck's Januvia](#) – PMLive

The decision validates Merck's patents covering sitagliptin - the active ingredient in Januvia and line extension Janumet (which also contains metformin) - and effectively bars Glenmark from selling its Zita and Zita-Met copies. The court did however allow the Indian drugmaker to sell off any remaining inventory.

Merck filed a lawsuit against Glenmark alleging patent infringement in 2013, and the Delhi High Court rejected Merck's petition for an injunction in the same year. In May, the Supreme Court issued a temporary injunction on sales of Glenmark's products, which has now been made permanent.