

**IPR and Innovation**

1. [Pfizer loses UK patent case over use of Lyrica drug in pain](#) – Reuters

**Access to Healthcare**

1. ['Govt mulling using unclaimed amounts for senior citizens' healthcare'](#) – The Economic Times

**Medical & Regulatory**

1. [Exclusive – Govt may cap drug trade margin at 35%, pharma shares fall](#) – Business Today
2. [Medicine Prices –Part2: Learning from the German pricing system](#) - MoneyLife

**Others**

1. [India's Pharmaceutical Industry on the Move: M&A Increases by 44.5%](#) – Process Worldwide
  2. [Ebola's "magic pill" might actually be a machine](#) – Fortune
  3. [Drug to cure dengue might soon be a reality](#) – Indian Express
  4. [India is so big, we can't ignore it, we always keep it on our radar: Severin Schwan, Roche CEO](#)  
– The Economic Times
- 

**IPR and Innovation**

1. [Pfizer loses UK patent case over use of Lyrica drug in pain](#) – Reuters  
Pfizer suffered a major setback in Britain on Thursday when the High Court in London ruled that claims of patent protection for the use of its \$5 billion-a-year drug Lyrica as a pain treatment were invalid. Lyrica, known generically as pregabalin, was originally developed for epilepsy. However, further research showed it could also help patients suffering from neuropathic pain and most prescriptions are now written for pain. "Pfizer is liable for making groundless threats of patent infringement proceedings," the court said in a lengthy judgment.

**Access to Healthcare**

1. ['Govt mulling using unclaimed amounts for senior citizens' healthcare'](#) – The Economic Times  
[The Centre](#) is considering using unclaimed amounts in various government investments to provide healthcare to the country's senior citizens, Union [Finance Minister](#) Arun Jaitley said today. Jaitley also hailed the role of the private sector medical institutions in providing "very high quality healthcare" across the country. "In fact, it is now universally accepted that even though private healthcare is very costly...compared to what it is in the developed world, we are still much better off. "That is one reason why patients from across the world are now being attracted to come to India - we call medical tourism and people in developed countries now and other developed world and other regional areas around India consider India relatively by global standards a low-cost healthcare destination," he said.

## Medical & Regulatory

1. [Exclusive – Govt may cap drug trade margin at 35%, pharma shares fall](#) – Business Today  
The government is considering a plan to cap traders' margin at 35 per cent on generic drugs to lower cost of essential drugs, sources told Bloomberg TV India on Thursday. The move comes after the Prime Minister's Office intervened in lowering drug prices, which has risen primarily because of astronomical trade margins that was as high as 4,000 per cent for some drugs. Sources said the Department of Pharmaceuticals is planning to reduce the maximum retail price of generic drugs by capping the trading margins. The DoP is likely to cap traders' margins at 35 per cent for generic drugs—the margin may be capped at 10 per cent for wholesalers, 20 per cent for retailers and 5 per cent for special offers.
2. [Medicine Prices –Part2: Learning from the German pricing system](#) - MoneyLife  
In Germany, additional benefit over existing benchmark for same treatment is considered for pricing of innovative drugs. Can India follow a similar practice? This is the second part of a three-part series. In this part, we will look at the pricing assessment system adopted by Germany in 2011 and take an example of an innovator drug that was launched in Germany and India around the same time but withdrawn from German market in 2014 post a review by German pricing authorities.

## Others

1. [India's Pharmaceutical Industry on the Move: M&A Increases by 44.5%](#) – Process Worldwide  
The Indian domestic pharma market is estimated at INR 90,400 crore (US \$ 15 billionn) ending 2015 with a growth of 12 %. It is estimated that almost 27-30 % of India's pharmaceutical market is catered to by multinationals operating in India and around 4,60,000 people are estimated to be employed in the pharmaceutical industry. Top 20 companies account for 64 % of the market. 8 out of the top 20 are growing faster than the market, with Macleoids topping the list with 23.4% growth followed by Intas with 21. 3%, Cipla 19.7 % Glenmark over 19.4 % growth and Mankind 19.3 %.
2. [Ebola's "magic pill" might actually be a machine](#) – Fortune  
Early intervention with medical devices focussed on “simple things” could be better than drugs at halting infectious disease outbreaks.

It was a fascinating comment, especially since anti-viral drugs, both for Ebola and beyond, are booming—the market is poised to have revenues of more than \$30 billion by 2017. And in just the past year, the infectious disease sector has been buzzing with positive anti-viral news on the Ebola front. Mapp Pharmaceuticals began clinical trials of its antibody drug, ZMapp, in Liberia. Chimerix [CMRX](#) announced the start—and then the stop—of clinical trials for its anti-viral drug brincidofovir. And last month, infectious disease specialists at London's Royal Free Hospital reported an anti-viral drug, favipiravir, appeared to prevent infection after exposure to Ebola-contaminated needles. But despite all these encouraging results, no single drug has jumped out as the go-to therapy for Ebola's incapacitating—and usually deadly—symptoms.

3. [Drug to cure dengue might soon be a reality](#) – Indian Express  
Drugs already developed to treat bacterial infection can be re-purposed to cure the mosquito-borne viral disease dengue, Australian researchers have found. Dengue virus is estimated to infect up to 400 million people globally each year. The World Health Organisation ranks it as the most important mosquito-borne viral disease in the world. “Despite this significant global health burden, no vaccine or drug has yet been licensed,” Young pointed out.

4. [India is so big, we can't ignore it, we always keep it on our radar: Severin Schwan, Roche CEO](#)

– The Economic Times

Roche, the world's biggest seller of biotech drugs and diagnostics, is preparing to launch a raft of innovative products that work by activating the body's immune system to fight cancer cells. These drugs, popularly termed immunotherapies, demonstrate a paradigm shift in cancer treatment and experts believe it will transform the way cancer will be perceived in the next decade.

Most of Roche's \$48-billion turnover (in 2014) at present comes from a small portfolio of cancer products led by [Avastin](#), which clocked sales of nearly \$6.5 billion. Herceptin, its [breast cancer](#) drug, grossed about the same level of sales. At a meeting to showcase its future pipeline earlier this week at Basel, senior [Roche](#) executives underlined that its potential offering in immunotherapy are industry-leading.