



News Updates: January 24, 2014

Publication: Business Day

Edition: Online

Date: January 24, 2014

Journalist: Alexander Chiejina

Headline: [Drug patent cliff to drive pharma firms into innovation, research](#)

Synopsis: Multinational pharmaceutical firms such as Novartis, Sanofi, Pfizer, GlaxoSmithKline, etc, are on the brink of a decline in revenues due to patent expiry dates as many are losing the exclusive rights to produce some of their blockbuster drugs. This situation, industry experts believe, could lead to new research and product innovation, with generic drug producers set to benefit hugely from the patent cliff.

Publication: The Financial Express

Edition: Online

Date: January 23, 2014

Headline: [Drug approvals in India drop eleven-fold in 2013](#)

Synopsis: The recent controversies surrounding clinical trials in India has affected the number of drug discoveries been carried out in the country. In 2013 only 23 new drugs were approved, compared to the 270 drugs in 2008. The pipeline of new drugs have almost dried-up, because the approval process has become much more stringent and difficult.

Publication: The Hindu

Edition: National

Date: January 24, 2014

Headline: [Druggist trade body makes a foray into manufacturing](#)

Synopsis: AIOCD is in the process of establishing some organized retail shops to try out a new innovative model. The All India Organization of Chemists & Druggists (AIOCD), an association that represents chemists and pharmaceutical drug retailers, has ventured into the manufacture and retail of medicines. AIOCD, which represents about 750,000 chemists and pharmaceutical retailers, has promoted All India Origin Chemists and Distributors Ltd. (AIOCDL) to make generic products.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: Online

Date: January 24, 2014

Headline: [Biocon forced to move clinical trials out of India](#)

Synopsis: Biocon, which sought to develop drugs for India and other emerging markets from home, is in a quandary. As the Indian authorities clamp on clinical trials, Biocon has been forced to move various Indian projects to the US and Europe. The move not only makes the process more cumbersome but results in a 10- to 20-fold increase in the cost of drug development for the Bangalore-based publicly-held company.

Publication: The Hindu

Edition: Online

Date: January 23, 2014

Headline: [Indian clinical trial regulations impractical, says Biocon chief](#)

Synopsis: Indian clinical trial regulations for vaccines “ridiculous and impractical”, said the Chairman and Managing Director Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw of Biocon, a leading biotechnology, on Thursday. Speaking at a media conference convened to present the company’s results for the third quarter ending December 31, 2013, which the company released late on Wednesday evening, Ms. Mazumdar-Shaw said regulations for clinical trials, especially for “large trials” for vaccines, demand “ridiculous requirements.” “Believe me, it (the regulation) is absolutely impractical for large trials,” she said. She pointed out that recordings of large trials involving 10,000 patients and more are extremely difficult. “Lay people, with no understanding of clinical trials, are making such recommendations,” she claimed.

Publication: The Financial Express (PTI Story)

Edition: Online

Date: January 24, 2014

Headline: [Ranbaxy Laboratories suffers another setback as US FDA bans more products](#)

Synopsis In a setback to Indian pharmaceutical giant Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd, the US has prohibited the company from producing and distributing drugs for the American market from its Toansa facility in Punjab.

In an order, the Food and Drug Administration yesterday prohibited Ranbaxy from distributing in the US the drugs manufactured using active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) in Toansa, including drugs made by Ranbaxy's Ohm Laboratories facility in New Jersey.

Also appeared in

The Economic Times - [US halts drug imports from Ranbaxy plant in India](#)

Business Standard - [U.S. FDA bans more products from Ranbaxy](#)

Publication: Pharmabiz

Edition: Online

Date: January 24, 2014

Headline: [Despite CM's assurance, govt yet to form grievance redressal committee to address issues of pharmacists](#)

Synopsis Despite chief minister Prithviraj Chavan's assurance six months ago in this regard, a grievance redressal committee to address and solve the issues of the pharmacists in the state is yet to be formed by the department of medical education and drugs of the state government. More than 75,000 chemist shops in Maharashtra, including the nearly 6,000 shops in Mumbai, were up in arms against the alleged harassment of the traders by the Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on several issues including the strict enforcement of Drugs and Cosmetics (D&C) Act, 1940 by the FDA which mandates the presence of a qualified pharmacist (B Pharm) to be present in the shop at all times while dispensing drugs.

Publication: The Economic Times (Scan attached, no link available)

Edition: Mumbai

Date: January 24, 2014

Headline: Pricing of our Breast Cancer Drug Helped Expand Mkt: Biocon

Synopsis: Biocon has justified the 19,500-57,500 pricing for its new breast cancer drug Canmab, with the company’s chairman and managing director Kiran Mazumdar Shaw saying that the first biosimilar version of Swiss drug maker Roche’s offering has expanded the market. “I think because of our launch, Roche was forced to bring down their price by almost 50 %, so we are expanding the market,” Mazumdar-Shaw told ET. “We are also the only one to have introduced the new dosage form.”

Publication: Mint

Edition: Online

Date: January 23, 2014

Headline: [Novartis net profit drops 50% to Rs.15.2 crore](#)

Synopsis: Novartis India Ltd, the Indian arm of Swiss drug maker Novartis AG, said on Thursday that net profit dropped almost by half in the quarter ended 31 December after it cut prices of medicines covered by new drug price controls that took effect last year. Net profit fell to Rs.15.2 crore in the quarter from Rs.29 crore in the year-ago period. Sales dropped to Rs.224.6 crore from Rs.234 crore.

Publication: The Economic Times

Edition: Online

Date: January 23, 2014

Headline: [Sun Pharma gets DGCI nod for breast cancer drug](#)

Synopsis: Sun Pharma Advanced Research Company today said it has received the approval of the Drug Controller General of India (DGCI) for its medicine for treatment of breast cancer. The medicine, Paclitaxel Injection Concentrate for Nanodispersion (PICN), was found to be equally effective and safe when compared to Abraxane in a clinical study in metastatic breast cancer patients, the company said in a statement.

Publication: Business Standard

Edition: National

Date: January 23, 2014

Headline: [Pharma stocks edge higher](#)

Synopsis: Pharma stocks edged higher. Cipla (up 0.38%), Dr Reddy's Laboratories (up 0.2%), Lupin (up 0.66%), Ranbaxy Laboratories (up 0.5%) and Sun Pharmaceutical Industries (up 1.99%) gained.