IES MCRC
VALUE ADDITION THROUGH EDUCATION

JULY 2026
Issue No.1

PHARMAVISION

Building Tomorrow's Pharma Leaders

Published By

PHARMA CLUB

IES's Management College and Research Centre,
Mumbai

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Want to know more? Scan the QR code to access additional insights on all the featured news stories.

SUN PHARMA ACQUIRED ORGANON

Sun Pharma is acquiring U.S.-based Organon for $11.75 billion ($14/share) in an all-cash deal, marking the largest overseas acquisition by an Indian pharmaceutical company. Funded by $2–2.5 billion in cash reserves and $9.25–9.75 billion in bank financing, the transaction has been approved by both boards and is expected to close in early 2027 pending regulatory and shareholder approvals.

The deal catapults Sun Pharma into the top 25 global pharma companies with a projected $12.4 billion in revenue across 150 countries, making it a top-three player in women's health. Organon adds $6.2 billion in revenue and $1.9 billion in EBITDA (2025), and Sun Pharma plans to use the combined entity's nearly doubled cash flow to quickly pay down the resulting 2.3x net debt-to-EBITDA ratio.

-The Economic Times

THE WEIGHT-LOSS PILL WARS:
SEMAGLUTIDE VS. TIRZEPATIDE

A massive real-world tracking study published on April 17, 2026, revealed that Eli Lilly's blockbuster weight-loss drug, tirzepatide, causes patients to lose slightly more lean muscle mass than Novo Nordisk's competitor, semaglutide. Because losing muscle tissue instead of fat poses a risk to long-term physical strength and metabolic health, this new data is driving a rapid response within the healthcare technology sector. Pharmacy software companies are now actively updating their clinical dosing engines, equipping doctors with enhanced digital tracking tools to better manage, preserve, and protect a patient's muscle mass during active weight-loss treatments.

"A Shared Vision for Global Healthcare"

"This transaction represents a significant opportunity for Sun Pharma to build on its vision of Reaching People and Touching Lives. Organon's portfolio, capabilities, and global reach are highly complementary to our own."

— Dilip Shanghvi, Executive Chairman, Sun Pharma

"Following a comprehensive review of strategic alternatives, our board determined that this all-cash transaction offers compelling and immediate value to Organon stockholders."

— Carrie Cox, Executive Chair, and Kevin Ali, CEO, Organon

An nference study of 670,000 GLP-1 users found tirzepatide patients lost 1.1% more lean mass at 3 months and 2.0% more at 12 months than those on semaglutide. For extreme weight loss, 10.3% on tirzepatide suffered severe muscle depletion versus 6.7% on semaglutide. This disparity stems from tirzepatide targeting dual GLP-1/GIP receptors in muscle tissue, with deterioration worsening alongside low exercise tolerance or pre-existing joint pain.

-The Economic Times

'Sun Pharma secures relief in PANTOCID trademark dispute'

Court Restrains Finecure over Deceptively Similar Drug Name

The Division Bench of the Delhi High Court granted interim relief to Sun Pharma Laboratories by restraining Ahmedabad-based Finecure Pharmaceuticals from manufacturing, selling, or advertising drugs under the mark 'PANTOPACID'. Sun Pharma has continuously utilized its registered trademark 'PANTOCID' since 1999 for its popular Pantoprazole-based anti-acidity formulation, building substantial market goodwill and recording annual sales exceeding ₹513 crore. The court agreed that Finecure's mark is structurally, visually, and phonetically confusingly similar to Sun Pharma's established brand, emphasizing that even minimal naming confusion in pharmaceutical preparations poses a serious risk to public health.

Strict Balance Struck Between Trademark Protection and Existing Stock

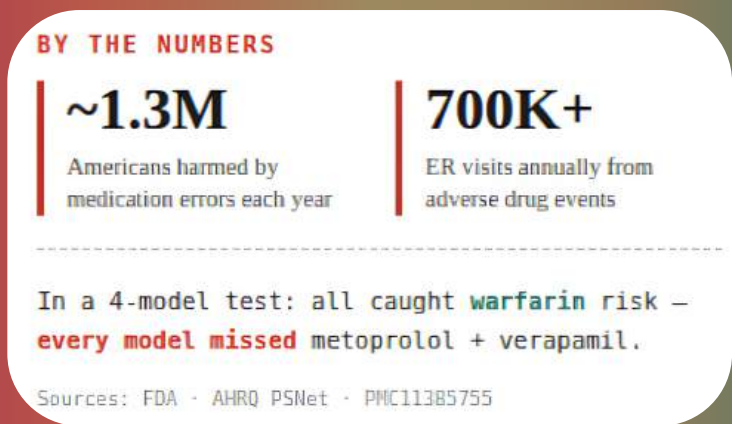
While setting aside a single-judge order that had previously refused an injunction, the bench firmly upheld the statutory presumption of validity belonging to Sun Pharma's trademark. However, acknowledging that Finecure had been selling its product commercially without a previous injunction, the court granted the firm a limited window of four months to clear its existing market inventory. To utilize this transition period, Finecure must submit a complete affidavit disclosing all stock particulars, including batch numbers, while remaining strictly barred from any further manufacturing or packaging under the infringing name.

-The Economic Times

AI FAILS THE PHARMACY TEST: Why Human Oversight Remains Vital

Multiple medical system reviews published this month have delivered a stark reality check for healthcare automation: while large language models (LLMs) are exceptional at administrative tasks like drafting text and summarizing documents, popular AI tools still make dangerous clinical mistakes when acting as digital pharmacists. The studies revealed a critical vulnerability in AI decision-making. In tests involving complex patient profiles, AI consistently missed high-risk medication-related problems most notably, failing to flag life-threatening side effects caused by mixing specific interacting pills.

-The Economic Times

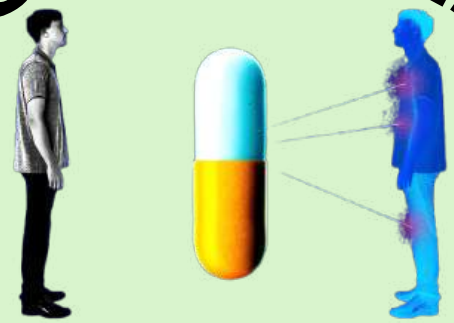


HARYANA PLANS RS 10,000 CR PUSH TO EMERGE AS PHARMA DEVICE MANUFACT-URING HUB

The Haryana government is preparing to introduce a new Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Manufacturing Policy aimed at attracting ₹10,000 crore in investments over the next five years and creating at least 20,000 jobs. The policy seeks to establish the state as a leading manufacturing hub for medicines, medical devices, active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), and other high-value healthcare products. Aligned with the 'Make in India' initiative, the policy focuses on reducing India's dependence on imported APIs, bulk drugs, and advanced medical devices by promoting domestic manufacturing, research and development, and innovation. It also proposes incentives for skill development, international quality certifications, and export competitiveness to strengthen India's healthcare supply chain and expand its presence in global pharmaceutical markets. The initiative comes as India's pharmaceutical industry, currently valued at nearly USD 50 billion, is projected to reach USD 130 billion by 2030 highlighting the sector's strong growth potential.

-The Times of India

HOW "DIGITAL TWINS"



Are Changing How Medicine Is Made

Pharmaceutical manufacturers are increasingly integrating Digital Twins—virtual 3D replicas of manufacturing equipment and processes—into production lines to monitor drug quality in real time. By combining these digital models with predictive analytics, manufacturers can detect equipment failures, identify potential batch defects early, and optimize production before problems occur. This marks a shift from traditional post-production batch testing to continuous, proactive quality assurance, reducing manufacturing waste, minimizing the risk of drug shortages, and improving the safety and consistency of medicines. This growing adoption is reflected in the rapid expansion of the global healthcare digital twins market, which is projected to grow from USD 902.6 million in 2024 to USD 3.55 billion by 2030, at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 25.9%. In 2024, North America accounted for the largest market share (46.8%), led by the United States. The software segment dominated the market with a 78.8% revenue share and is expected to remain the fastest-growing category. Personalized medicine emerged as the leading application (27.4%), while healthcare providers represented the largest end-user segment, contributing 36.2% of global market revenue.

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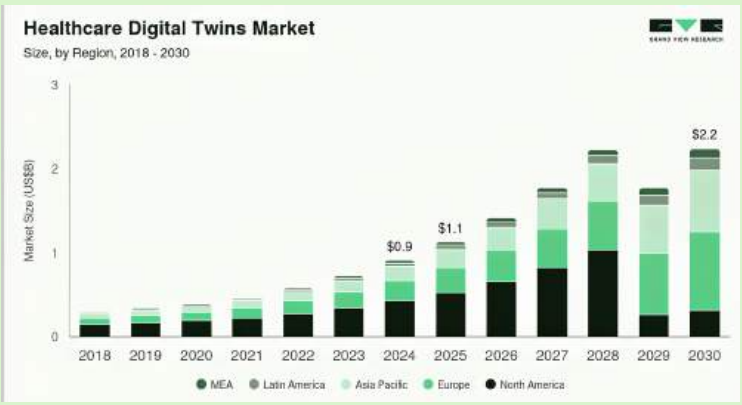
-The Economic Times



FDA INVESTIGATES POTENTIAL GENETIC RISK ASSOCIATED WITH 'Sevoflurane'

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is investigating the safety of sevoflurane and other volatile general anesthetics following reports of severe neurological complications and deaths in a small number of patients with maternal Venezuelan ancestry after routine anesthesia. Scientific studies suggest these rare cases may be linked to a mitochondrial genetic variant, MT-ND4 m.11232T>C, which could increase susceptibility to serious anesthesia-related adverse events. While the reported cases have primarily involved sevoflurane, the FDA is evaluating whether the potential risk extends to other volatile anesthetics. The agency issued the alert to raise awareness among healthcare providers, particularly those caring for Venezuelan populations, following recent earthquakes in Venezuela that may increase the need for medical care. As a precaution, the FDA advises clinicians to consider alternatives such as intravenous or regional anesthesia, where clinically appropriate, until more information becomes available. The agency continues to review the emerging evidence to determine whether additional safety recommendations or regulatory actions are needed for FDA-approved anesthetic products.

-Reuters

Shigella Outbreak Intensifies in Kerala

‘Case Count Reaches 147’

Health officials in Kerala are on high alert as the state's Shigella outbreak continues to escalate, with the Directorate of Health Services reporting two more fatalities, bringing the total death toll to five. According to the latest surveillance data, eight new confirmed cases were identified on Monday across multiple districts, including *Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Thrissur, Malappuram, Kannur, and Kozhikode*, pushing the cumulative case count to 147.Shigella is a highly contagious bacterial infection that primarily attacks the lining of the human digestive system, triggering severe symptoms such as acute diarrhea (often bloody), high fever, and intense abdominal cramps. Public health authorities emphasize that the bacterium spreads rapidly through contaminated food and water supplies, as well as via direct person-to-person contact.

Clinical Note on Treatment: While it is true that there is currently no widely available preventative vaccine for shigellosis, the condition requires active medical management rather than passive monitoring. While mild cases can resolve with aggressive hydration and rest, healthcare providers frequently prescribe targeted antibiotic therapies for severe infections or outbreak scenarios to shorten the duration of the illness and prevent life-threatening complications

-The Economic Times

147	5	+8	6
TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES (2026)	DEATHS THIS YEAR	NEW CASES REPORTED MONDAY	DISTRICTS AFFECTED

KILLER COUGH SYRUPS, ZERO ACCOUNTABILITY: INVESTIGATING THREE PHARMA COMPANIES

A joint investigation by The News Minute and Newslaundry exposes a recurring crisis within India's pharmaceutical sector, underscored by the tragic deaths of over 22 children in Madhya Pradesh in October 2025 from contaminated cough syrups. This tragedy mirrors previous international scandals involving Indian manufacturers like Digital Vision, Maiden Pharma, and Marion Biotech, whose toxic products were linked to child fatalities in Gambia and Uzbekistan. Despite the devastating global toll, these companies face virtually no severe criminal or financial consequences domestically, allowing them to continue operations or simply rebrand to evade accountability.

-The Economic Times

Mankind Pharma Partners with Denovo Sciences for 'AI-Driven Drug Discovery'

Mankind Pharma has entered into a strategic partnership with Denovo Sciences to launch an AI-powered drug discovery programme, strengthening its focus on technology-driven pharmaceutical innovation. The collaboration will use machine learning and predictive analytics to accelerate early-stage drug discovery, improve the quality of lead candidates, and identify promising drug molecules more efficiently. The partnership will follow a "human-in-the-loop" approach, where AI prioritizes potential compounds while scientists and clinicians oversee the decision-making process. By integrating artificial intelligence into drug discovery, Mankind Pharma aims to reduce development timelines and enhance research productivity. This collaboration builds on the company's growing AI initiatives, following its earlier partnership with OpenAI to implement GPT-based technologies across field operations, digital marketing, and manufacturing, highlighting its commitment to digital transformation across the pharmaceutical value chain.

-The Economic Times

The US Government is Funding *"Agentic AI"* for Hospitals

The U.S. Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) announced a $2 million grant program to support the use of Agentic AI in clinical care. The initiative aims to improve healthcare efficiency by helping hospitals integrate AI into routine clinical workflows.

WHY ?

Agentic AI acts like an intelligent assistant that can take actions on its own. It can review a patient's medical history, schedule appointments, monitor treatment progress, and suggest treatment options to doctors without requiring constant human input. The government aims to introduce this technology in hospitals to reduce administrative workload, improve efficiency, and give doctors more time to focus on patient care.

HOW DOES IT IMAPCT TRADITIONAL HEALTHCARE

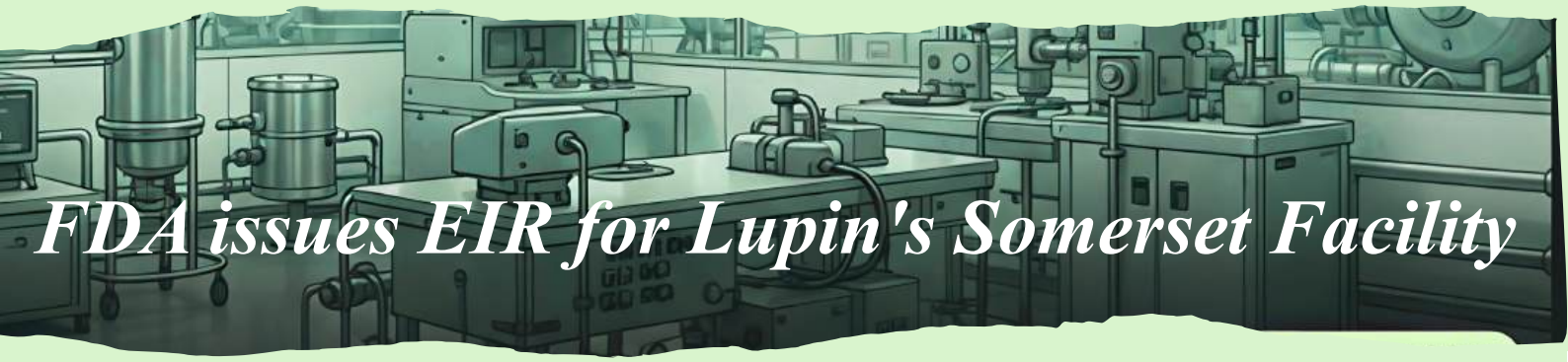
- Reduces doctors' administrative workload, automating routine tasks like documentation and scheduling, allowing more time for patient care.
- Speeds up diagnosis and treatment by quickly analyzing patient records and clinical data, enabling faster medical decisions.
- Improves clinical decision-making through AI-driven recommendations based on patient data and evidence-based guidelines.
- Enhances patient experience with faster appointments, personalized care, and reduced waiting times.
- Shifts healthcare from reactive to proactive by enabling early disease detection, continuous monitoring, and timely preventive interventions.

-The Economic Times

Shantha Biologics to make injectable drug cartridges for Novo Nordisk

Shantha Biologics has signed a Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization (CDMO) agreement with Novo Nordisk to manufacture pre-filled injectable drug cartridges at its Hyderabad facility. The partnership marks a significant milestone for both companies and reinforces India's growing role in global pharmaceutical manufacturing. Under the agreement, Shantha Biologics will carry out the specialized fill-finish manufacturing process, ensuring sterile production and compliance with stringent international quality and regulatory standards. The collaboration reflects Novo Nordisk's confidence in Shantha's advanced manufacturing capabilities and automated facility, which meets global regulatory requirements, including U.S. FDA standards. The partnership is expected to strengthen the supply of high-quality injectable therapies for diabetes and other biologic treatments while enhancing Shantha Biologics' presence in the global biologics manufacturing sector.

-The Economic Times Pharma



FDA issues EIR for Lupin's Somerset Facility

The facility inspected from April 13 to 17, was flagged with a Form 483 with three observations by the FDA. Mumbai: Drugmaker Lupin Limited has received Establishment Inspection Report (EIR) for its Somerset, New Jersey-based facility with a satisfactory Voluntary Action Indicated (VAI) from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).The facility inspected from April 13 to 17, was flagged with a Form 483 with three observations by the FDA. We are pleased to receive the EIR with a VAI classification and reinforces our dedication to manufacturing high-quality medicines that patients can trust," said Nilesh Gupta, MD, Lupin. An observation under the Form 483, is issued if the FDA observes that certain conditions may violate the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic (FD&C) Act or related laws. However the observations are early warning of potential compliance issues and allows the company to address them before further regulatory action is considered.

-The Economic Times

India's Move from

“Cheap Pills” → “Smart Medicine”

At the opening of the 9th India Pharma 2026 Conference, the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers announced a major policy shift to turn India into an innovation-led "Biopharma" powerhouse. For decades, India has been the global hub for making cheap, generic versions of everyday medicines (like paracetamol). Now, the country is shifting to "Biopharma"—which means using advanced biotechnology and AI to invent brand-new, complex life-saving drugs from scratch rather than just copying existing formulas.

-The Economic Times

No proposal to privatise Haffkine Bio-Pharma, Zirwal tells Maharashtra assembly

The Maharashtra government has clarified that there is no proposal to privatise the state-owned Haffkine Bio-Pharmaceutical Corporation Ltd., with Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Minister Narhari Zirwal stating that the government's intention was never to transfer the historic vaccine manufacturer to a private player. Replying during the Question Hour in the Legislative Assembly, Zirwal explained that the earlier proposal to invite private participation was aimed solely at modernising Haffkine's facilities for manufacturing vaccines, blood components, and other biological products. The proposal was dropped after only one company responded to the Expression of Interest (EOI). The minister acknowledged that Haffkine is currently facing production stoppages, manpower shortages, and financial constraints. Opposition members demanded a time-bound probe into alleged irregularities, greater administrative accountability, and the appointment of a full-time senior officer to lead the corporation.
Congress Legislature Party leader Vijay Wadettiwar urged the government to allocate ₹150 crore to modernise Haffkine, arguing that public investment would be sufficient to revive the institution without private involvement.

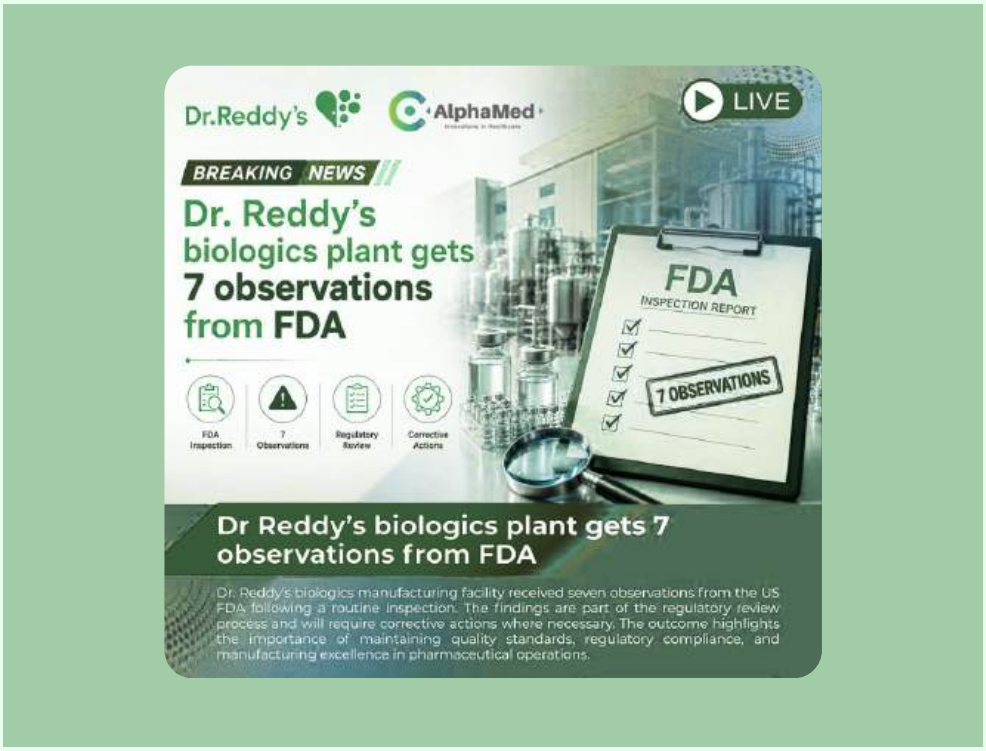
He also sought a clear assurance that the corporation would remain under government ownership. Responding to concerns over land allocation, Zirwal clarified that no Haffkine land had been sold to the Tata Group, stating that the land was only leased for a research centre. Reaffirming the government's commitment to strengthening the institution, he announced that Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis would chair a meeting with officials and legislators to discuss measures for Haffkine's revival.

-The Economic Times

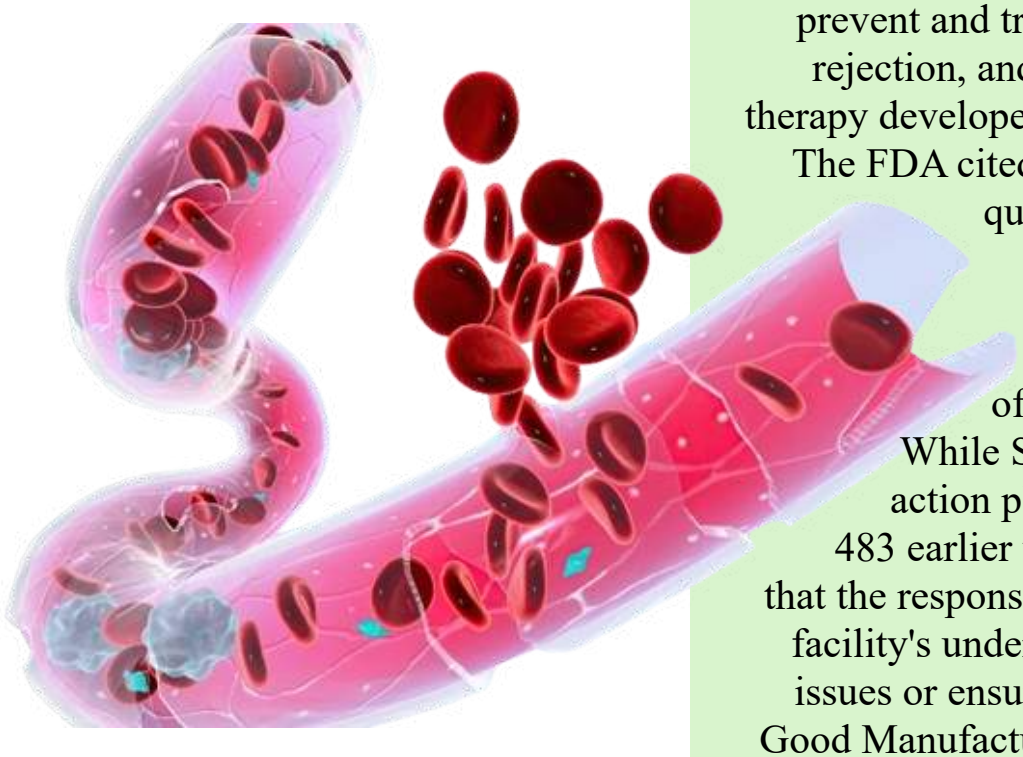
Dr Reddy's biologics plant gets 7 observations from FDA

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories has received seven observations from the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) following a Pre-License Inspection (PLI) at its biologics manufacturing facility in Bachupally, Hyderabad. The inspection was conducted between June 16 and June 25. In a regulatory filing to the stock exchanges, the company stated that the USFDA issued a Form 483 with seven observations at the conclusion of the inspection. While the company did not disclose the nature of the observations, it confirmed that it will submit a comprehensive response and address all observations within the stipulated timeline.The Bachupally facility is one of Dr. Reddy's key bio-logics manufacturing sites and is equipped with advanced mammalian and bacterial cell culture capabilities, including state-of-the-art stainless steel bioreactors. The facility manufactures pre-filled syringes (PFS) and supplies biologic products to several international markets, including the United States, Europe, Latin America, and South Africa. A Form 483 is issued when USFDA investigators identify conditions that may require corrective action during an inspection. The observations do not represent a final regulatory determination, and companies are expected to respond with appropriate corrective and preventive measures.

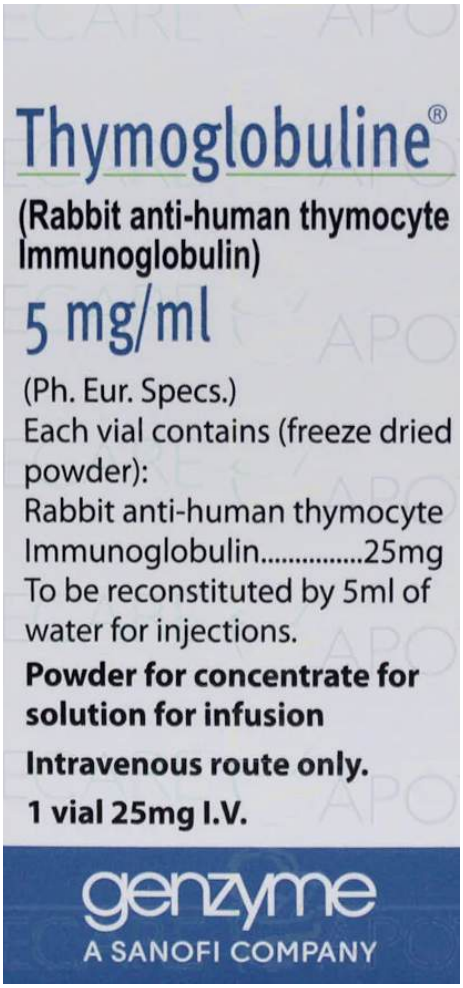
-The Economic Times

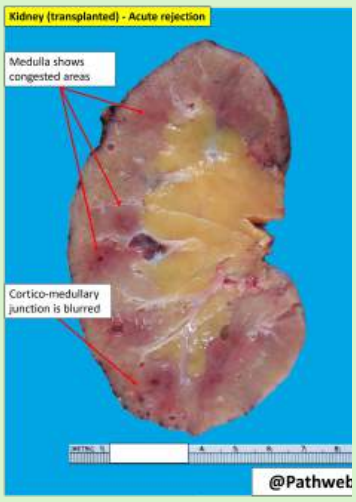


SANOFI unit in Ireland chided by FDA over manufacturing flubs linked to **ALTUVIIIO**



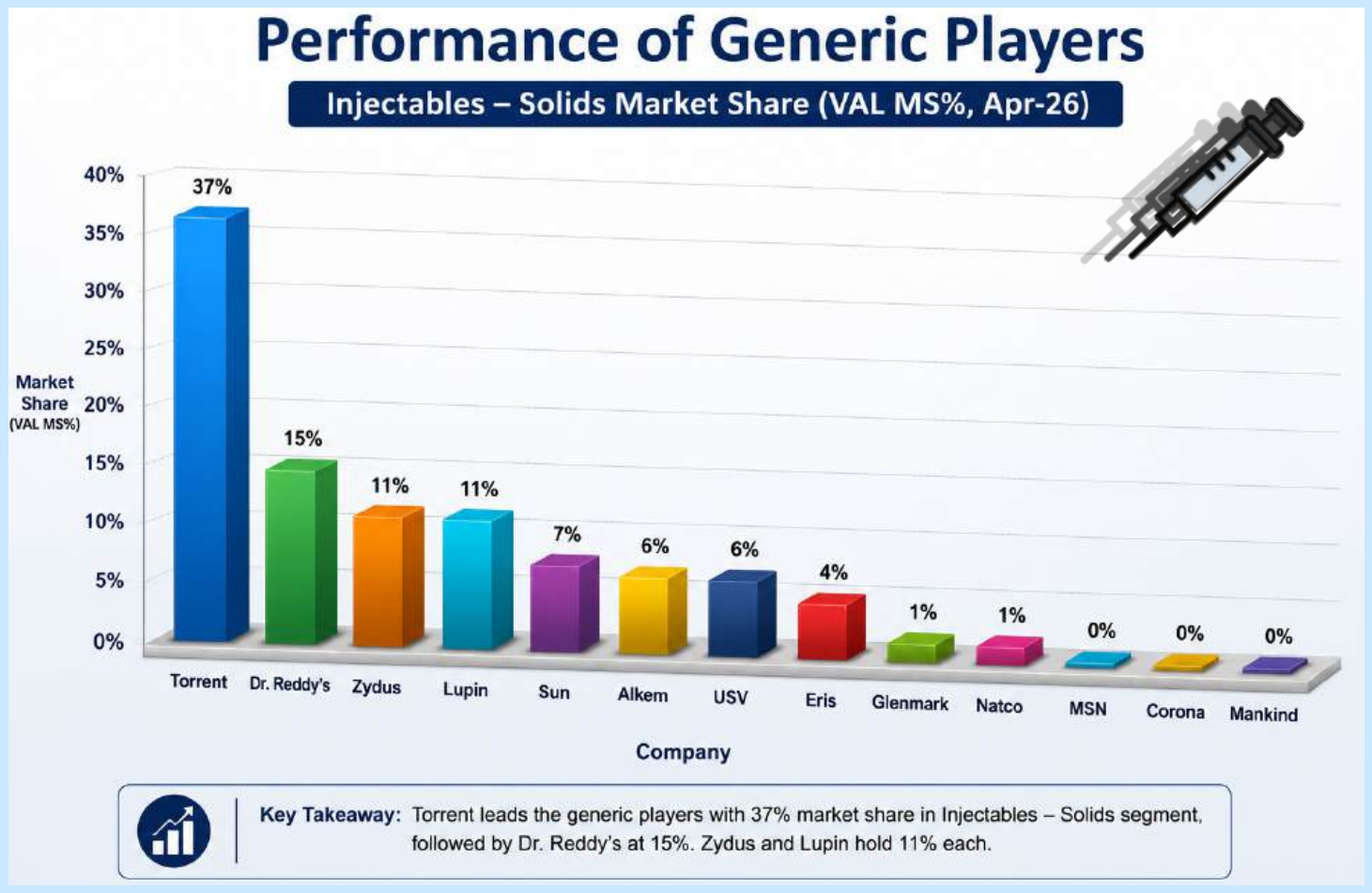
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued a warning letter to Sanofi's Genzyme Ireland manufacturing facility following an inspection that identified significant manufacturing and quality control deficiencies. The findings relate to the production of Thymoglobulin, used to prevent and treat acute kidney transplant rejection, and Altuviiio, a hemophilia A therapy developed in partnership with Sobi. The FDA cited concerns over inadequate quality oversight, incomplete laboratory records, data integrity lapses, and insufficient investigation of manufacturing deviations. While Sanofi submitted corrective action plans after receiving a Form 483 earlier this year, the agency stated that the responses did not fully address the facility's underlying quality management issues or ensure compliance with current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP). In response, Sanofi said it is treating the warning letter with the utmost seriousness and is working closely with the FDA to implement robust and sustainable corrective measures. The company also emphasized that all products released from the Waterford facility continue to meet established quality and safety standards and that it does not anticipate any disruption to the supply of its medicines.





-The Economic Times

Torrent Leads the Generic GLP-1 Injectable Market

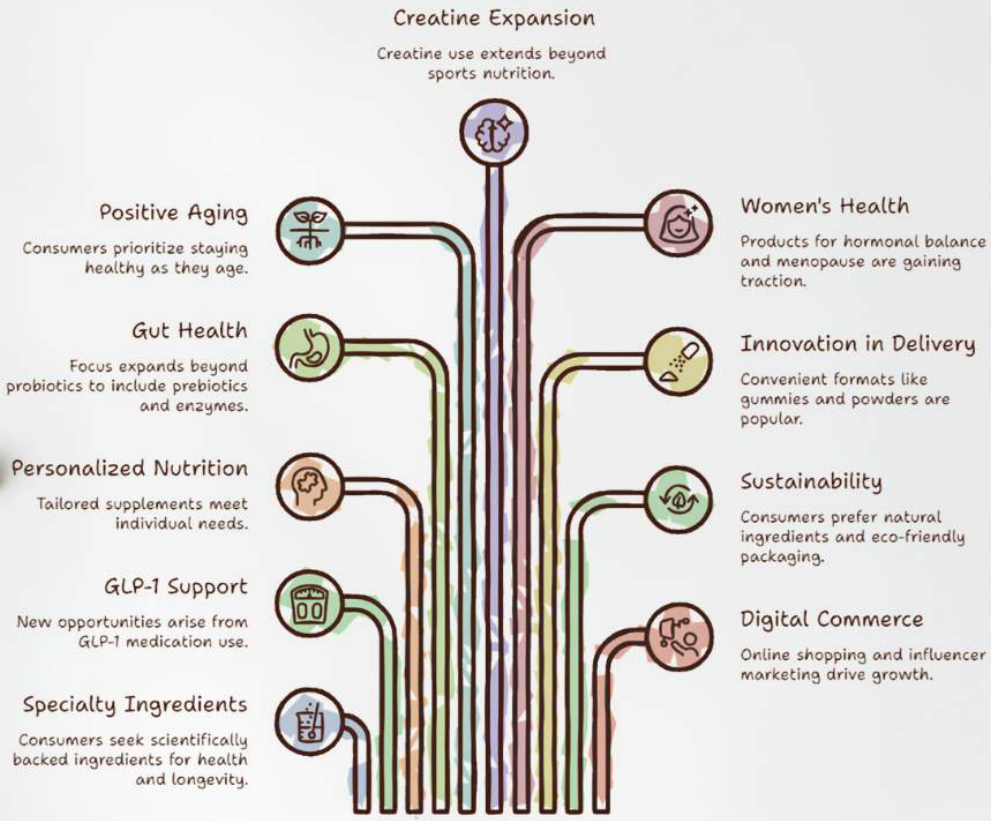


- Torrent is the clear market leader, capturing 37% market share, indicating a strong first-mover advantage in the generic injectables segment.
- Dr. Reddy's ranks second with 15% market share, establishing itself as the leading challenger to Torrent.
- Zydus and Lupin each hold 11% market share, reflecting healthy competition among the second-tier players.
- The top four companies (Torrent, Dr. Reddy's, Zydus, and Lupin) account for approximately 74% of the total market, highlighting a highly concentrated competitive landscape.
- Mid-sized players such as Sun (7%), Alkem (6%), USV (6%), and Eris (4%) are steadily expanding their presence but remain significantly behind the market leaders.
- New entrants, including Glenmark (1%) and Natco (1%), have recently entered the market and are in the early stages of market penetration.
- MSN, Corona, and Mankind currently have minimal or no measurable market share, suggesting limited commercial traction during the reporting period.
- The distribution indicates that brand recognition, physician adoption, and distribution strength continue to play a critical role in determining market share in the GLP-1 generic injectables market.

-PharmaTrac Acquaint

Nutraceutical Industry Insights

Global neutraceutical market on track towards $1 trillion. Increasing consumer demands for evidence-base, targeted nutrition.



The evolution of the nutraceutical industry is being driven by a highly informed, proactive consumer base that values scientifically backed efficacy, clean-label transparency, and ultimate convenience. From the mainstream adoption of personalized nutrition and advanced gut health formulations to specialized demographics like positive aging, women's health, and GLP-1 companion supplements, the market is rapidly moving away from one-size-fits-all solutions. Ultimately, as innovative delivery formats like gummies and powders break down traditional pill fatigue, companies that seamlessly integrate digital commerce with hyper- targeted, sustainable products are poised to lead this new era of proactive global wellness.

IES MCRC Newsletter

PGDM
Pharmaceutical management

The PGDM Program is a meticulously conceived, 2 year full-time program, spread across 6 trimesters. It is rigorously industry-oriented, approved by AICTE, and granted equivalence to an MBA degree by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).The program aims to impart comprehensive insights into the pharmaceutical sector, preparing students for leadership roles with a strong ethical foundation.

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