

AstraZeneca inks pact with Dr Reddy's

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AstraZeneca (AZ) Pharma India and Dr Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) have entered into a distribution agreement for two drugs Riax and Riax-M. The drugs are used for the treatment of diabetes.

Riax and Riax M are trademarks of the AstraZeneca group. DRL will be distributing these two drugs in the country.

"Diabetes is a disease of epidemic scale in India with over 65 million affected people. This partnership reflects our constant endeavour to enhance patient's access to novel treatment solutions like saxagliptin," said Mr Sanjay Murdeshwar, managing director, AstraZeneca Pharma India, in a statement.

"We are committed to addressing unmet needs of diabetes patients in India and are pleased to partner with AstraZeneca in launching saxagliptin and its combination with metformin (another anti-diabetic drug), an important addition to our diabetes franchise," said Mr Alok Sonig, senior vice-president and head of India Business.

AstraZeneca already has two brands under the trademark Onglyza and Kombiglyze for saxagliptin and infixed dose combination with metformin respectively, promoted and distributed in the Indian market.