

Top 20 Series-Rank 11-AstraZeneca acquires global diabetic business

14 October 2015 | Features | By BioSpectrum Bureau

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Organization: AstraZeneca Pharma India Ltd MD: Mr Sanjay Murdeshwar Bioscience Revenue: Rs 468.13 crore

AstraZeneca (AZ) Pharma India reported total business of Rs 468.13 crore for the 12-month period ending March 31, 2015. AZ registered six percent growth in bioscience revenue. The primary business here includes manufacture and sale of pharma products, clinical trial services, and copromotional services. AZ rendered co-promotion services for pharmaceutical products to Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS) India till January 31, 2014. AstraZeneca group companies also acquired the global diabetic business of BMS.

Consequent to the aforesaid acquisition, AZ has entered into a consignment sale agreement with BMS and accordingly sale of diabetic products by BMS in India for the period February 1, 2014 to March 31,2014, has been included as part of the sales of the company.

AZ and Dr Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) entered into a distribution agreement for two drugs namely, Riax and Riax-M. The drugs' trademarks are with AstraZeneca group. DRL will distribute the two drugs in the country.

It also announced its collaboration with Sun Pharmaceutical Industries in June 2015. They entered into a distribution services agreement for AZ's brand 'Axcer', a new brand of ticagrelor, a drug used for the treatment of acute coronary syndrome (ACS) in India.

AZ also announced the launch of FORXIGA (dapaglifozin), a breakthrough treatment for type-2 diabetes mellitus. AstraZeneca India was established in 1979 and is headquartered in Bengaluru, Karnataka. It is present in seven crucial areas of healthcare - Cardiovascular, Diabetes, Oncology, Respiratory & Inflammation, Infection, Local Anesthesia and Maternal Healthcare.

AstraZeneca has been regularly launching products from its global portfolio in India over the past years, leading to the development of several domestic power brands including Crestor, Seloken XL, Meronem, Arimidex, Zoladex, Nexium and most recently Brilinta.

AstraZeneca India employs over 1,500 people in sales, marketing and manufacturing. AZ, this year, faced its fiery patent trial in India when Hyderabad-based Lee Pharma filed for compulsory licensing with the Indian Patent Office for manufacturing AZ's diabetes drug, Saxagliptin. However, the patent controller issued decision in favor of AZ, stating Lee's failure in making a Prima Facie case for granting the compulsory license