

Market Round-up

V5 – 8th June, 2018

General Market News:

- **Takeda** announced today that it has entered into a \$7.5bn (£5.6bn) term loan credit agreement to fund **Shire** merger, with several financial institutions.
<http://www.cityam.com/287216/pharma-giant-takeda-enters-into-75bn-loan-agreement-fund>
- **Servier** has just acquired **Shire's** oncology unit for \$2.4 billion
<https://endpts.com/after-snatching-up-shires-cancer-unit-french-pharma-giant-servier-to-expand-us-presence-with-kendall-square-innovation-office/>
- **Pfizer** wins appeal against £84m UK fine over epilepsy drug price
<https://www.ft.com/content/d7f6197a-6a58-11e8-8cf3-0c230fa67aec>
- Regulators on both sides of the Atlantic have accepted for review **Pfizer's** PARP inhibitor **talazoparib** as a treatment for women with a hereditary BRCA mutation.
http://www.pharmatimes.com/news/pfizer_files_parp_inhibitor_for_breast_cancer_in_us_eu_1239074
- Shortage of HPV anti-cancer drug **Gardasil** in Hong Kong prompts protest outside **Merck** offices in Causeway Bay
<http://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/health-environment/article/2149922/shortage-hpv-cancer-drug-gardasil-hong-kong>
- **NICE** deems **MSD's Keytruda** cost-effective as first-line lung cancer therapy
http://www.pharmatimes.com/news/nice_deems_msds_keytruda_cost-effective_as_first-line_lung_cancer_therapy_1238861
- **Astellas** accuses **Cipla** of infringing overactive bladder patent
<https://www.lifesciencesipreview.com/news/astellas-accuses-cipla-of-infringing-overactive-bladder-patent-2908>
- **GSK** completes buyout of **Novartis** from joint venture
<https://www.lifesciencesipreview.com/news/gsk-completes-buyout-of-novartis-from-joint-venture-2903>
- **MSD** is apparently preparing for supply blackout in Brexit planning
http://www.pmlive.com/pharma_news/mercks_brexit_contingency_plan_stockpile_medicines_1238995
- **Shire** launches screen responsibly, an eyelove® initiative dedicated to prioritizing eye health in a screen-saturated world
<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/shire-launches-screen-responsibly-an-eyelove-initiative-dedicated-to-prioritizing-eye-health-in-a-screen-saturated-world-300660543.html>
- **MSD** presents positive melanoma data on **Keytruda** at ASCO
<https://www.nasdaq.com/article/merck-presents-positive-melanoma-data-on-keytruda-at-asco->

[cm973637](#)

- **AstraZeneca** and **MSD** have presented data at ASCO showing improvement in radiologic progression-free survival in prostate cancer patients
http://www.pharmatimes.com/news/az_msds_lynparzaabiraterone_combo_hits_prostate_cancer_goals_1238569

Biosimilars/Biologics:

- The European Medicines Agency's (EMA) Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) recommended nine medicines for approval, including four biosimilars.
<https://www.raps.org/news-and-articles/news-articles/2018/6/emas-chmp-offers-positive-opinions-for-4-more-bio>
- **AbbVie's** megablockbuster **Humira** will lead the world's drug sales charts in 2024, according to a new report
<https://www.fiercepharma.com/pharma/abbvie-s-humira-merck-s-keytruda-and-more-top-10-drugs-2024>
- **BioMarin** Pharma receives milestone payments from **Pfizer** for **Talazoparib**
<https://www.streetinsider.com/Corporate+News/BioMarin+Pharma+%28BMRN%29+Receives+Milestone+Payments+from+Pfizer+%28PFE%29+for+Talazoparib/14283215.html>
- FDA approves **MYLAN** drug as first biosimilar to **Amgen's Neulasta**
<https://www.physiciansweekly.com/fda-approves-mylan-drug/>
- **Amgen's Neulasta** to face competition from biosimilar
<http://www.sfvbj.com/news/2018/jun/04/amgens-neulasta-face-competition-biosimilar/>

Drug Approvals:

- The European Commission has approved **Amgen's Prolia** for patients with glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis
<https://www.streetinsider.com/Corporate+News/Amgen+%28AMGN%29+Says+EC+Approved+Prolia+for+Patients+With+Glucocorticoid-Induced+Osteoporosis/14288393.html>
- **Pfizer's Xeljanz** Scores Another FDA-Approved Indication
<https://www.ptcommunity.com/news/20180605/pfizer-s-xeljanz-scores-another-fda-approved-indication>
- FDA approves **MYLAN** drug as first biosimilar to **Amgen's Neulasta**
<https://www.physiciansweekly.com/fda-approves-mylan-drug/>
-

Further Reading:

- Impediments to a Stronger Biosimilars Market: *AN INFLIXIMAB CASE STUDY*
<https://www.pacificresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/PolicyObstaclesFweb.pdf>
- The way the pharma industry looks at medication is evolving and may be including new tech-focused treatments, such as digital therapeutics.
<http://www.mobihealthnews.com/content/novartis-vp-digital-therapeutics-pills-are-just-another-kind-treatment>