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Market Round-up

V14 – 24th August, 2018

General Market News:

- ***Uniphar*** was cleared to buy ***Sisk's*** hospital equipment business for a for reported €65m
  LINK

  HSE under fire for hiring 600 extra senior managers
  LINK

- ***Pfizer*** has made an equity investment of an undisclosed size in immunotherapy firm ***Biontech*** through a multi-year research and development collaboration worth up to $425m.
  LINK

- **NHS trusts** are warning that the health service is not prepared for a no-deal **Brexit** and that drug supplies could be affected as a result.
  LINK

- The early launch of ***Amgen's*** migraine drug **Aimovig** drug is likely to give it a solid head start over competitors.
  LINK

- ***Amgen*** to present new **Repatha** analyses at ESC Congress 2018
  LINK

- ***AstraZeneca*** inhaler lags ***GSK*** drug in lung disease trial
  LINK

- ***Pfizer***, ***Astellas*** revise two cancer drug trial protocols to speed up results evaluating the safety and efficacy of **XTANDI® (enzalutamide)**
  LINK and **LINK**

- ***Pfizer*** loses bid to escape **Lipitor** antitrust lawsuit
  LINK

Biosimilars:

- ***Pfizer*** lawsuit could clear path for biosimilars
  LINK

NCPE Drug Updates

- *No updates from NCPE this week.*

Drug Approvals:

- EU approves ***Pfizer's*** **Xeljanz** for **ulcerative colitis**
  LINK

- The **FDA** announced that it has given approval to ***Teva Pharmaceuticals'*** generic version of **EpiPen** and **EpiPen Jr**. (epinephrine) auto-injector. This is the first generic version of EpiPen and EpiPen Jr.
  LINK

- ***Merck***, ***Eisai*** get **FDA** approval for ***Lenvima*** label expansion
  LINK

- ***Merck*** obtains earlier FDA approval for expanded label of **Keytruda** in front-line Lung cancer
  LINK

- ***Shire's*** **Takhzyro** has been approved in the US for the prevention of attacks of hereditary angioedema (**HAE**) in patients 12 years of age and older
  LINK

Brexit:

- The UK has released its first set of guidelines on what to do if there's a no-deal Brexit. In 24 technical papers, the government outlines its contingency plans for industries including medicine in the event that negotiations should fail.
  LINK

- What to do if there is no Brexit deal. Article from *Financial Times*
  LINK

- The British government has told pharmaceutical companies to stockpile an extra six weeks supply of medicines to prepare for a no-deal Brexit and warned that businesses will face new bureaucratic hurdles when they import and export goods.
  LINK

Further Reading:

- Researchers hail "exciting results" in ovarian, lung cancer trial
  LINK

- Direct-to-consumer genetic testing is booming, but ethical concerns remain
  LINK

- ***Sláintecare*** must not be sacrificed at the altar of Irish politics – article appeared in Irish Times.
  LINK

- Despite 70% of companies saying that Britain's exit from the EU will have a negative economic impact, just 6% of Irish businesses have a formal **Brexit** plan in place, according to a new report from **AIB**.
  LINK

- Machine learning is widely predicted to make drug discovery and patient diagnosis quicker, cheaper and more effective in the future, and signs of this can already be seen.
  LINK

- A U.S. appeals court on Wednesday struck out a $3 million verdict against ***GlaxoSmithKline*** over the suicide of an attorney who took a **generic version** of the company's antidepressant **Paxil**, finding the company could not be held liable for injuries allegedly caused by a generic copy
  LINK