

Market Round-up

V32 – 18th January, 2019

General Market News:

- **GSK** has advised that more doses of **Shingrix** are on the way
[LINK](#)
- **FDA** starts more unpaid work as shutdown enters week 4
[LINK](#)
- **Pfizer** is to close two manufacturing facilities in India that produce generic injectable therapies, including **penicillin**
[LINK](#)
- **MSD's Keytruda** has reduced the risk of death by 31% in oesophageal cancer
[LINK](#)
- **Novartis** battles with the **Dutch health minister** for raising the price of cancer drug **Lutathera**
[LINK](#)
- **Pfizer** closes 5 biosimilar R&D programs, sheds 150 jobs
[LINK](#)
- **Merck** and **Roche** have agreed to renew their current distribution agreement
[LINK](#)
- The changes and departures keep coming from **AstraZeneca** with **Sean Bohan**, CMO and EVP of global medicines development, is the latest to depart.
[LINK](#)

NCPE Drug Updates

- NCPE recommends that **Clonmel Healthcare's diclofenac** 140mg Medicated Plaster (**Itami**®) not be considered for reimbursement.
[LINK](#)
- NCPE recommends that **MSD's doravirine** (**Pifeltro**®) not be considered for reimbursement at the submitted price.
[LINK](#)
- NCPE recommends that **MSD's Destrigo**® be considered for reimbursement.
[LINK](#)
- NCPE recommends that **Roche's alectinib** (**Alecensa**®), not be considered for reimbursement unless cost-effectiveness can be improved relative to existing treatments.
[LINK](#)

Biosimilars/Biologics:

- Reverse switch from **biosimilar** to **Remicade** produces similar IBD outcomes
[LINK](#)

Drug Approvals/Filings:

- EMA has approved **Mundipharma's Flutiform pMDI** for use in the treatment of children with **asthma** aged five years and over.
[LINK](#)
- The EC has granted **J&J's** androgen receptor inhibitor **Erleada** (apalutamide)
[LINK](#)
- FDA approves **Abbott's** pea-sized implant for sealing congenital heart defects in premature newborns
[LINK](#)
- **Amgen** and **UCB Pharma's** osteoporosis drug **romosozumab** has been approved in Japan
[LINK](#)
- **Pfizer's** new drug applications for **tafamidis** has been granted priority review by the FDA
[LINK](#)
- Two FDA advisory committees back approval of **Amgen's EVINITY** (romosozumab) for the treatment of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women
[LINK](#)
- The FDA has granted *Breakthrough Designation* for **Novartis's crizanlizumab** to reduce VOCs in patients with sickle cell disease.
[LINK](#)

Brexit:

- HSE warns Government over drug supply in no-deal Brexit scenario
[LINK](#)
- Owen McKeon, President of **Medicines for Ireland** calls for more Government collaboration to avoid drug shortages
[LINK](#)
- Following the comprehensive rejection last night of the **Brexit** withdrawal agreement in the UK parliament, pharmaceutical groups give their feedback.
[LINK](#)

Further Reading:

- Undoubtedly, this is where the pharma market is going. **Novartis** and **University of Oxford** are to join forces and use AI to understand complex diseases and improve drug development.
[LINK](#)
- Why pharmaceutical companies are on a shopping binge [*The Economist*]
[LINK](#)
- **Takeda** completed its acquisition of **Shire** last week —CEO **Christophe Weber** predicts it won't be the last major merger in the industry.
[LINK](#)
- Software technology company **Chronicle Inc** raises \$16M to bring **blockchain** to the pharmaceutical industry
[LINK](#)