

Economic Times ND 02.02.2015 P-6

Corpus of Rs 10 Cr for Startups to Push Affordable Healthcare

Shonali Advani

INJECTING FUNDS Unitus Seed Fund, Pfizer, PATH, Manipal Hospitals and Narayana Health have joined hands to accelerate health tech start-ups with the StartHealth programme

A group of healthcare entities, including Manipal Hospitals and Narayana Health, have got together with an investor to provide up to Rs 10 crore (\$1.6 million) in grants and investments to early-stage startups that seek to enhance access to affordable technology-driven healthcare products and services for low-income masses in India.

Apart from the two hospitals, the programme known as StartHealth is backed by investor Unitus Seed Fund, PATH, an international non-profit organisation, and pharmaceutical major Pfizer.

<http://epaperbeta.timesofindia.com/Article.aspx?eid=31816&articlexml=Corpus-of-Rs-10-Cr-for-Startups-to-02022015006041>

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PwC to Supervise Divestment of Sun-Ranbaxy Drug Brands

Rajat Arora

Both cos have expedited divestment process to fast-track Ranbaxy's acquisition by 2-3 months

The Competition Commission of India has enlisted PwC to monitor the divestment process of seven drug brands from the stable of Sun Pharma and Ranbaxy Labs, before granting its final approval to the takeover of the latter by former.

The process of disinvestment of these brands has also been expedited by the two companies to fast-track the acquisition of Ranbaxy by Sun by at least two to three months, officials and industry consultants aware of matter confirmed to ET.

<http://epaperbeta.timesofindia.com/Article.aspx?eid=31816&articlexml=PwC-to-Supervise-Divestment-of-Sun-Ranbaxy-Drug-02022015008035>

Times of India ND 02.02.2015 P-10

Obesity could lead to cancer, finds study

Janani Sampathi

Indians At Risk; Docs Advise Dietary Changes To Reduce Threat

Nearly everyone knows that obesity is a major cause of cardiovascular problems and diabetes. But what many do not know is that extra kilos can also lead to that emperor of maladies - cancer.

Obesity is now pandemic and researchers have noted a statistically increased risk of developing cancers, especially that of the breast, endometrium, colon and rectum, among overweight people. Several studies including one by National Cancer Institute, USA, indicate that there is a direct link between obesity and cancer. Doctors who conducted these studies say unless obese individuals make appropriate dietary changes, obesity could soon overtake tobacco as the top cause of cancer.

<http://epaperbeta.timesofindia.com/Article.aspx?eid=31808&articlexml=Obesity-could-lead-to-cancer-finds-study-02022015010029>

Times of India ND 02.02.2015 P-10

Meet with regulators to ease drug nod process

Sushmi Dey timesgroup.com

In line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's action plan to enhance ease of doing business in India, the health ministry has proposed a regulatory pathway for pharmaceutical companies conducting clinical trials and planning to launch products in the country.

The ministry has proposed 'presubmission meetings' to enable technical deliberations between the drug regulator and stakeholders to address concerns even before companies make formal application seeking product approvals or permission for clinical trials.

<http://epaperbeta.timesofindia.com/Article.aspx?eid=31808&articlexml=Meet-with-regulators-to-ease-drug-nod-process-02022015011021>

Pioneer ND 02.02.2015 P-5

India for injectable vaccine from oct

With India achieving 'polio-free nation' status, steps are underway to introduce Injectable Polio Vaccine (IPV) from October to completely eliminate the deadly polio virus. A senior official in the Union Health Ministry said that under the routine immunization programme the orally-administered vaccine, also called as Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV), would be withdrawn first and a dose of inactivated vaccine (IPV) in the form of an injection will be introduced.

Phase I of the strategy involves a global switch from the trivalent to bivalent vaccine by 2016, as recommended by the World Health Organisation. "The introduction of Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) will be taken across the country from October this year prior to this switch. The aim is to introduce IPV in the entire region by the end of this year followed by the global switch in vaccine in 2016," the official added.

<http://www.dailypioneer.com/nation/india-for-injectable-vaccine-from-oct.html>