

DCAT[®] TOP INDUSTRY NEWS

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► **[UCB To Acquire Ra Pharmaceuticals for \\$2.1 Bn](#)**

UCB has agreed to acquire Ra Pharmaceuticals, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on therapies for rare diseases, for a total transaction value of approximately \$2.1 billion.

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► **[Alexion To Acquire Achillion Pharmaceuticals for \\$930 Million](#)**

Alexion Pharmaceuticals, a pharmaceutical company focused on rare diseases, has agreed to acquire Achillion Pharmaceuticals, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on developing oral small-molecule Factor D inhibitors for certain rare diseases, for \$930 million.

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► **[Takeda To Divest Select OTC and Rx Products for \\$200-Million Plus](#)**

As part of a portfolio evaluation following its \$62-billion acquisition of Shire earlier this year, Takeda Pharmaceutical has agreed to divest to Acino, a Zurich-based pharmaceutical company, a portfolio of select OTC and prescription pharmaceutical assets in a number of Near East, Middle East and African countries for more than \$200 million.

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► **[GSK, AstraZeneca in Project for Continuous Direct Compression](#)**

The UK's Centre for Process innovation has begun work on a project to develop a continuous direct compression platform for solid dosage medicines with the University of Strathclyde, GlaxoSmithKline and AstraZeneca.

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► **[Novo Nordisk, Bluebird Bio Partner to Develop Gene Therapies](#)**

Novo Nordisk and Bluebird Bio, a developer of gene therapies for severe genetic diseases and cancer, have entered into a three-year research collaboration to jointly develop gene therapy candidates, including for hemophilia.

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► **[Sanofi Opens Continuous Biomfg Facility in US; Opens New HQ in UK](#)**

Sanofi has opened a new digital continuous biomanufacturing facility in Framingham, Massachusetts and separately a new site for its UK headquarters.

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► **[GSK, Lyell Immunopharma Form Pact for Cancer Cell Therapies](#)**

GlaxoSmithKline has formed a five-year collaboration with Lyell Immunopharma, a San Francisco-based adoptive cell therapy biotechnology company, to develop new technologies to improve cell therapies for cancer patients with solid tumors.

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► **[FDA Issues Warning Letter to Torrent Over Impurities in Sartan APIs](#)**

The FDA has posted a Warning Letter to Torrent Pharmaceuticals for several manufacturing violations at its facility in Taluka-Kadi, Indrad, Gujarat, India. Torrent manufactures losartan potassium tablets and has been one subject of an ongoing global investigation into nitrosamine impurities in angiotensin II receptor blockers.

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► **[FDA OKs NMEs from Novartis, Eli Lilly; AZ's Self-Admin Fasenra](#)**

Novartis, Eli Lilly respectively get FDA approval for wet-age macular degeneration and migraine drugs, and AstraZeneca gets approval for its asthma drug in a new product form, a prefilled auto-injector.

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► **[MilliporeSigma in Acoustic Technology for Cell Therapy Mfg](#)**

The latest news from CDMOs, CMOs, and suppliers featuring news from MilliporeSigma, Sekisui Diagnostics, TriPharm Services, ACG Inspection, and Bormioli.

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