

# This Week's **Top** Industry News

Provided as a service to DCAT member companies each Friday.

**BUSY WEEK?** Here are the **TOP INDUSTRY NEWS** stories you might have missed, as selected by DCAT Editorial Director *Patricia Van Arnum*

**1. [Merck KGaA Completes \\$17 Billion Acquisition of Sigma Aldrich](#)**

With approval from the European Commission, Merck KGaA gained the final piece needed to close its \$17 billion deal with Sigma Aldrich, the largest in a multi-year series of acquisitions and divestments totaling \$40 billion to turn the former pharma and chemicals company into a science and technology company with three businesses in healthcare, life science, and performance materials. [Read More](#)

**2. [Boehringer Ingelheim Announces Five-Year, \\$11 Billion R&D Program](#)**

Boehringer Ingelheim is launching a new R&D strategy and a five-year R&D investment plan in which the company will invest EUR 11 billion (\$11.2 billion) over the next five years. [Read More](#)

**3. [Guido Rasi Takes the Helm at EMA](#)**

Guido Rasi has taken office as executive director of the European Medicines Agency (EMA), marking a return to the agency in a role that he served in from November 2011 to November 2014. [Read More](#)

**4. [FDA Accepts BLA for Sandoz's Pegfilgrastim Biosimilar](#)**

The FDA has accepted the biologics license application of Sandoz for its proposed biosimilar to Amgen's US-licensed Neulasta (pegfilgrastim), a recombinant human granulocyte colony-stimulating factor, marking the company's third biosimilar filed in the US. [Read More](#)

**5. [Catalent Suspends Manufacturing at French Softgel Facility](#)**

Catalent is working with French regulatory authorities following the suspension of manufacturing at its softgel plant in Beinheim, France, due to out-of-place softgel capsules in several batches, an issue potentially related to a deliberate action by one or more individuals. [Read More](#)

**6. [Baxalta Gets FDA Nod for Singapore Manufacturing Facility](#)**

Baxalta, the biopharmaceutical company spun off from Baxter earlier this year, has received FDA approval for its recombinant biologic manufacturing facility in Singapore to produce the bulk drug substance for Advate, an anti-hemophilic factor. [Read More](#)

**7. [Hikma Resolves Manufacturing Issues at Portugal Facility](#)**

The FDA has closed out its Warning Letter to Hikma Pharmaceuticals with respect to its injectables manufacturing plant in Portugal, demonstrating that corrective actions were fully reviewed and accepted by the FDA stemming from a 2014 inspection of the facility. [Read More](#)

**8. [Pfizer, Servier Partner in CAR T Therapies](#)**

In yet another deal in the immuno-oncology market, Pfizer and the French pharmaceutical company, Servier, are partnering to co-develop and commercialize UCART19, an allogeneic chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) immunotherapy that Servier is developing with the French biopharmaceutical company, Collectis. [Read More](#)

## 9. [Array BioPharma, Pierre Fabre Ink \\$455 Million Oncology Drug Pact](#)

Array BioPharma, a biopharmaceutical company based in Boulder, Colorado, and the French pharmaceutical company, Pierre Fabre, have formed a collaboration to globally develop and commercialize Array's late-stage oncology products, binimetinib and encorafenib, in a deal valued up to \$455 million. [Read More](#)

## 10. [WuXi PharmaTech, Eli Lilly Partner for Small-Molecule Drug in China](#)

WuXi PharmaTech, a pharmaceutical service provider, and Eli Lilly and Company, have formed a strategic collaboration to develop, manufacture, and commercialize a small-molecule drug candidate in China. [Read More](#)

*The DCAT organization is happy to provide this service to its members each Friday.  
Have an enjoyable weekend!*

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### About Top Industry News

The DCAT organization recognizes its members have minimal time to keep up with the continuous flow of news covering this dynamic industry. To help ensure our members never miss the most important stories impacting the global pharmaceutical manufacturing industry, we will deliver each Friday, the week's Top Industry News, as selected by DCAT Editorial Director Patricia Van Arnum.



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