



Rx WIRE

A weekly service from
Pharmaceutical Strategies Group.

November 23, 2016

Creating opportunity for our clients with an exclusive focus on pharmacy solutions.

Analysts to Wall Street: Don't celebrate yet. The drug-pricing brouhaha is far from over

FiercePharma - November 17



When presidential candidate Hillary Clinton blasted Martin Shkreli on Twitter for hiking the price of an old drug called Daraprim by 5,000% in September 2015, biotech stocks plummeted.

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SUMMARY OF TOP ARTICLES

I read 7 Republican Obamacare replacement plans. Here's what I learned.

Vox - November 17

If there's one thing Republicans have been clear about for the past six years, it is that the top of their agenda includes repealing Obamacare.

It's on: With simultaneous FDA nods, Sanofi and Novo to vie for combo-med market

FiercePharma - November 22

In the end, it was a tie. Sanofi and Novo Nordisk, which had traded leads in their race to market with a new type of combination diabetes treatment, both won FDA approval for their entrants Monday.

A Growing Group Of Doctors Are Big-Money Prescribers In Medicare

NPR - November 17

The number of doctors who each prescribe millions of dollars of medications annually in Medicare's drug program has soared, driven by expensive hepatitis C treatments and rising drug prices overall, federal data

obtained by ProPublica show.

Drug side effects have led to increased ER visits in older Americans

STAT - November 22

Side effects from medication are causing more older Americans to visit emergency rooms and leading to more hospitalizations, according to an analysis of ER data from 2005-2006 and 2013-2014.

How Donald Trump Could Disrupt the FDA

BioSpace - November 22

When Donald Trump is sworn in as president in January there are questions as to what may happen to various agencies in the nation's capital, especially the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). There are some concerns that the Trump administration may look to dismantle the regulatory agency.

Cigna asks medical practices to sign opioid pledge with goal of dropping usage by 25 percent

Healthcare Finance - November 21

Cigna is asking medical practices to sign a pledge and join its commitment to lowering customers' opioid use by 25 percent over the next three years.

Walgreens.com now features patient medication reviews, info from PatientsLikeMe

MobiHealthNews - November 17

Online network PatientsLikeMe, which offers information and support for people living with a chronic condition, is expanding the amount of patient-generated information it offers through Walgreens.com to enhance understanding of certain prescription medications and their effects.

Study Finds Arthritis Drug Significantly Effective in Treating Crohn's Disease

Drug Discovery & Development - November 21

Researchers at University of California San Diego School of Medicine have shown that ustekinumab, a human antibody used to treat arthritis, significantly induces response and remission in patients with moderate to severe Crohn's disease.

FDA NEWS

FDA lifts hold on AstraZeneca head and neck cancer trials

Reuters - November 22

U.S. officials have given a green light for two clinical trials testing AstraZeneca's cancer immunotherapy drug durvalumab in head and neck cancer to resume recruiting patients, lifting a hold imposed following cases of bleeding.

FDA approves Intrarosa for postmenopausal women experiencing pain during sex

FDA - November 17

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Intrarosa (prasterone) to treat women experiencing moderate to severe pain during sexual intercourse (dyspareunia), a symptom of vulvar and vaginal atrophy (VVA), due to menopause. Intrarosa is the first FDA approved product containing the active ingredient prasterone, which is also known as dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA).

FDA outlines data needed for over-the-counter sunscreen additives

Reuters - November 22

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued guidelines on Tuesday detailing the data makers of sunscreen sold over the counter need to produce to prove the ingredients in the products are safe and effective.



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