



RxWire

A weekly service from Pharmaceutical Strategies Group.

FEBRUARY 23, 2017

Where are all the new diabetes drugs?

STAT - February 19

As oncologists race forward with new treatments verging on science fiction and biotech companies press on with drugs for once-hopeless rare disorders, one of the world's most pervasive diseases looks like it's been left behind..

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TRENDING NEWS

Cheaper drugs from Canada? Pharma despises the idea, but top senators are pushing HHS chief to try it

FiercePharma - February 16

Instead of being gouged on the prices for old drugs, Americans could import certain meds from Canada if a bipartisan group of senators get their way.

Scheme tied to UnitedHealth overbilled Medicare for years, suit says

New York Times - February 16

UnitedHealth Group, one of the nation's largest health insurers, is accused in a scheme that allowed its subsidiaries and other insurers to improperly overcharge Medicare by "hundreds of millions — and likely billions — of dollars," according to a lawsuit made public on Thursday at the Justice Department's request..

GOP leaders unveil new health law outline, divisions remain

Associated Press - February 16

Top House Republicans unveiled a rough sketch of a massive health care overhaul to rank-and-file lawmakers Thursday, but a lack of detail, cost estimates and GOP unity left unresolved the problem that's plagued them for years: What's the party's plan and can Congress pass it?.

Many younger cancer survivors can't afford their meds

HealthDay News - February 21

The skyrocketing cost of prescription drugs has many U.S. cancer survivors skipping needed medications or seeking cheaper alternatives, putting their health at risk, a new study finds.

Facing pressure, insurance plans loosen rules for covering addiction treatment

Kaiser Health News - February 21

Aetna, one of the nation's largest insurance companies, will remove a key barrier for patients seeking medication to treat opioid addiction..

Addressing the Fentanyl threat to public health

The New England Journal of Medicine - February 16

Fentanyl, a powerful synthetic opioid, poses an increasing public health threat. Low production costs encourage suppliers to "cut" heroin with the drug, particularly white powder heroin sold in the eastern United States.

Express Scripts' 2016 Drug Trend Report: 7 things to know

Managed Healthcare Executive - February 13

Efforts to improve care and access and reduce costs can pay off for pharma, especially during a time when value-based care is being debated in terms of what form it takes or how it gets delivered.

Congressional group gives bipartisan support to vaccine safety

HealthDay News - February 21

A group of six high-ranking U.S. Senators and House members from both sides of the aisle issued a statement Tuesday supporting the safety and effectiveness of FDA-approved vaccines.

Flu vaccine is only moderately protective this year, CDC says

STAT - February 16

This year's flu vaccine is offering moderate protection against the main family of viruses causing illness, data released Thursday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show.

Testosterone Therapy May Have Benefits, But Risks Too

HealthDay News - February 21

Testosterone treatment can boost bone density and reduce anemia in older men with low levels of the hormone, but it might also open the door to future heart risks, a new set of trials suggests.

FDA NEWS

FDA approves new psoriasis drug

FDA - February 15

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration today approved Siliq (brodalumab) to treat adults with moderate-to-

severe plaque psoriasis. Siliq is administered as an injection.

Lupin earns FDA approval for Hycodan generic

Drug Store News – February 17

Hycodan (hydrocodone bitartrate and homatropine methylbromide) is indicated for the symptomatic relief of cough in adults and children 6 years of age and older.



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