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VEPACHEDU EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Andhra Journal of Industrial News

IP and Industry News

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Issue 99 Contents:

After Final Consideration Pilot

The After Final Consideration Pilot (AFCP) program created early this year by the USPTO (http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/afcp.jsp) provides examiners with extra time to consider responses filed following a final rejection. The extra time is three hours for utility, plant, and reissue applications and one hour for design applications. If you have received a final rejection, you should consider filing a response under 37 CFR §1.116 during the duration of the pilot if you believe that such a response may lead to allowance of your application with only limited further search and/or consideration by the examiner. The AFCP, which started on March 25, 2012, and was originally scheduled to run through June 16, 2012, has been extended until September 30, 2012.

Guidelines for Consideration of Responses After Final Rejection under 37 CFR 1.116(b) under the After Final Consideration Pilot (AFCP): http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/afcp_guidelines.pdf

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Broken Drug Industry

Whether or not — and how easily — drug research labs can be fixed when broken? Sanofi is making a very public attempt to revive its labs. Pfizer seems to be undergoing a research revival. AstraZeneca has had among the very worst research productivity in the industry, spending a staggering $11 billion in R&D money for each new drug approved. R&D turnarounds are possible, but difficult, particularly because of the long timelines involved. To Kill a Drug Company, Reorganize It.
http://www.forbes.com/sites/matthewherper/2012/06/20/can-drug-companies-fix-their-broken-research-labs/

Biotechnology companies led by Amgen Inc. (AMGN) and Celgene Corp. (CELG) boosted spending on research and development for a second year in a row in 2011 after a steep drop in 2009, Ernst & Young said. The global industry cut research costs by 21 percent in 2009 as it navigated through the financial slowdown. Investment last year jumped 9 percent after a 2 percent increase in 2010, the London-based consulting firm said in its annual biotechnology report. In 2011, 62 percent of public companies in the U.S. increased R&D spending. While companies in the biotech industry raised $33.4 billion in 2011, the most since 2000, it was primarily in the form of debt financings by the industry's largest companies.
http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-06-19/biotechs-increased-r-d-spending-9-in-2011-report-finds.html

http://www.forbes.com/sites/matthewherper/2012/06/06/can-bushs-nih-chief-fix-the-drug-industry/

Drug ranking prediction: The percentage figure refers to the change in projected compounded annual sales growth from 2011 to 2018:

1. Januvia/Janumet (diabetes) Merck/Ono – $9.7 billion; 10 percent
2. Humira (arthritis) Abbott Labs*/Eisai – $8.2 billion; 0
3. Avastin (cancer) Roche – $7.5 billion; 3 percent
4. Enbrel (arthritis) Amgen/Pfizer/Takeda – $7.2 billon; -1 percent
5. Revlimid (myelodysplastic syndrome) Celgene – $6.75 billion; 11 percent
6. Prevnar 13 (pneumococcal vaccine) Pfizer – $6.72 billion; 9 percent
7. Rituxan (cancer) Roche/Biogen – $6.3 billion; – 1 percent
8. Lantus (diabetes) Sanofi – $5.9 billion; 1 percent

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9. Remicade (arthritis) J&J/Merck – $5.8 billion; – 3 percent
10. Seretide/Advair (COPD) Glaxo/Almirall/Faes – $5.7 billion; – 5 percent
http://www.pharmalot.com/2012/06/the-biggest-selling-drug-in-2018-will-be/ See also:
http://www.pharmalot.com/2012/06/who-got-the-most-buzz-at-the-noisy-asco-fair/

Abbott in India

Abbott had last month unveiled a collaboration with Syngene International Ltd., Biocon's contract research unit, to develop nutrition products targeting those afflicted by malnutrition and diabetes in the South Asian nation. Abbott already sells PediaSure nutritional drink for children, Similac infant-milk formula and Glucerna supplement for diabetics in India. The research center will focus on developing nutrition products that address local taste and texture preferences. Some of the products developed here could also be sold in other countries in the region and also across the globe. Abbott's move is significant because India has a large chunk of people suffering from malnutrition, which provides a market opportunity for products promoting growth in children and maintaining required nutrition levels in adults. On the other hand, rapidly changing lifestyles have led to India having the world's largest diabetes population. Increased awareness of health issues has also led to rising demand for nutritional products and supplements from a rapidly expanding middle class. Among the products being developed for India are meal complements for diabetics and pre-diabetics. Annual sales of nutraceuticals, functional foods and dietary supplements in India are about $1 billion, according to industry estimates. Abbott in 2009 agreed to acquire Wockhardt Ltd.'s nutrition business, but the deal was scrapped after the Indian company's overseas lenders demanded repayment of their loans before giving their approval. Wockhardt later resolved its issues with the lenders, and last year sold the business to French dairy giant Danone SA

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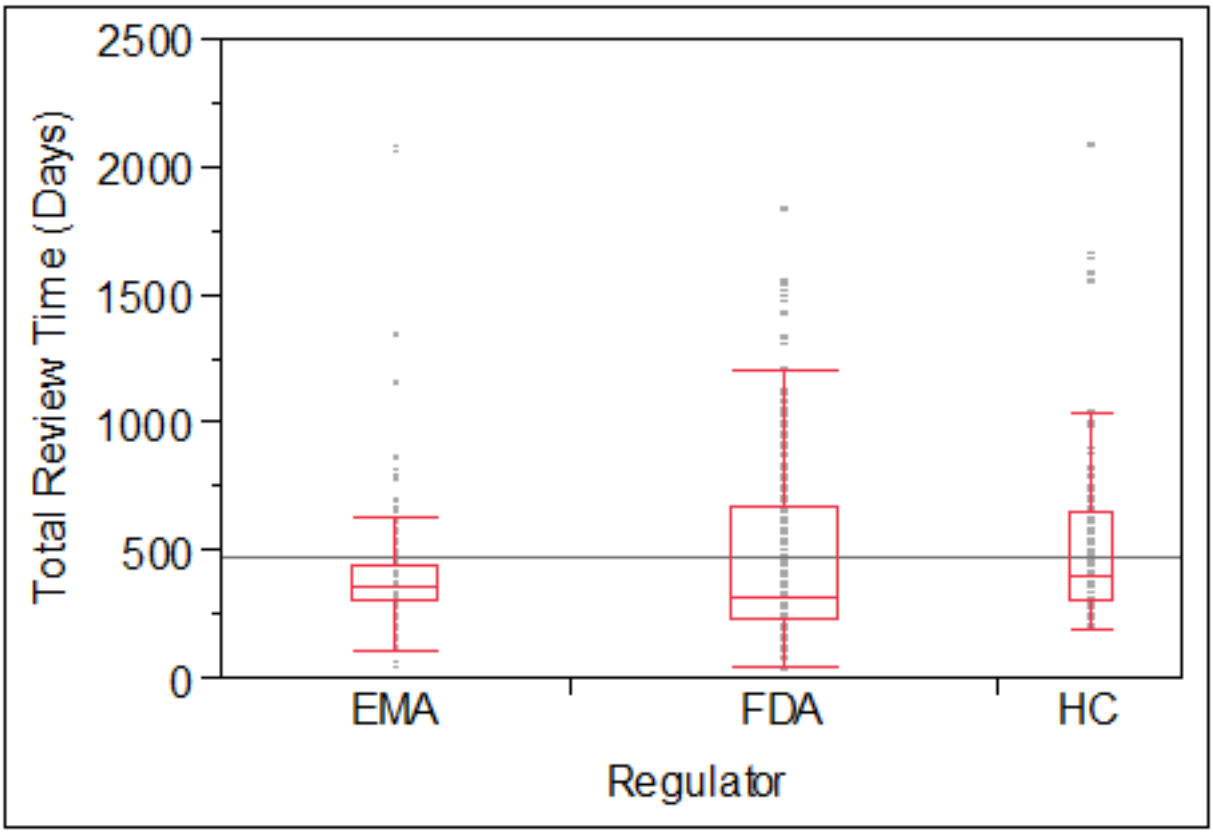
FDA /EMA/HC Approval Rates



FDA approval times compared to those of Health Canada and the European Medicines Agency. As can be seen in the figure below, the FDA was the fastest of the three agencies, even when we look at the total time from submission to approval, including time when both the agency and the industry applicant were "on the clock". The median time to approval was 322 days at the FDA, compared to 366 days at the EMA

and 409 days at Health Canada. http://www.forbes.com/sites/matthewherper/2012/06/19/more-proof-fda-is-faster-than-other-regulators

Triple-Bonded Boron

In a vacuum-sealed flask on a lab bench in Germany sits an emerald-green crystal that will cause some jaws to drop. The crystal is the first stable compound containing a triple chemical bond between two boron atoms, a feat that had previously been limited to only two other non-metal elements – carbon and nitrogen. Boron is more aloof than these neighbours and has four outer slots that can hold up to two electrons each – but in atomic boron, one of these slots is completely empty and the other three are only half full, with one electron apiece. http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn21927-triplebonded-boron-opens-new-chemical-world.html

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Om! Asatoma Sadgamaya, Tamasoma Jyotirgamaya, Mrityorma Amritamgamaya, Om Shantih, Shantih, Shantih!
(Aum! Lead the world from wrong path to the right path, from ignorance to knowledge, from mortality to immortality, and peace!)

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