

January 13, 2017

**DCAT****TOP**  
Industry  
NEWS

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

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### **1. Takeda to Acquire Ariad in \$5.2-Billion Deal**

Takeda Pharmaceutical has agreed to acquire Ariad Pharmaceuticals, headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts, for approximately \$5.2 billion. The deal gives Takeda two targeted rare-cancer therapies, Iclusig (ponatinib), a commercialized leukemia drug, and brigatinib, in development for treating lung cancer. [Read More](#)

### **2. Sanofi, BI Close on Multi-Billion Dollar Business Swap**

Sanofi and Boehringer Ingelheim (BI) have closed on their previously announced multi-billion dollar business-swap, which consists of an exchange of Sanofi's animal health business (Merial) and BI's consumer healthcare business. The companies had first announced their intent for the transaction in December 2015. [Read More](#)

### **3. Lilly Announces Changes in Commercial Organization and Leadership**

Eli Lilly and Company has made a series of changes to its commercial organization and leadership structure. The moves come as David A. Ricks, who became Lilly's president and CEO on January 1, 2017, takes the helm from John C. Lechleiter, PhD, who retired as president and CEO on December 31, 2016 and who will continue as non-executive chairman until May 31, at which time Ricks will become chairman of the board. [Read More](#)

### **4. Amgen Granted Cholesterol-Drug Injunction, Sanofi to Appeal**

Amgen has been granted a permanent injunction prohibiting Sanofi and Regeneron Pharmaceuticals from infringing two patents that Amgen holds for its anti-cholesterol drug, Repatha (evolocumab) by manufacturing, using, selling, or offering their anti-cholesterol drug, alirocumab, for sale in the US. [Read More](#)

### **5. Biogen Appoints New CEO**

Biogen appointed Michel Vounatsos as CEO and member of the board of directors, effective January 6, 2017. Vounatsos, who previously was executive vice president and chief commercial officer at Biogen, succeeds George A. Scangos, PhD, who had led the company since 2010. [Read More](#)

### **6. J&J Back in Talks with Actelion**

Johnson & Johnson (J&J) has re-entered into exclusive negotiations with Actelion, an Allschwil,

Switzerland-based biopharmaceutical company, regarding a potential transaction after previously calling off discussions in November 2016. A potential transaction would add a rare disease portfolio to J&J's business. [Read More](#)

### 7. [Teva Completes Sale of Actavis' UK, Ireland Assets](#)

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries has completed the previously announced sale of Actavis Generics' assets and operations in the UK and Ireland to Indian generics company, Accord Healthcare Limited, for an agreed value of £603 million (\$733 million) following European Commission approval. [Read More](#)

### 8. [Amgen in \\$530-Million Deal for Bispecific Immunotherapies](#)

Amgen has formed a collaboration with Immatics Biotechnologies, a biopharmaceutical company based in Tuebingen, Germany and Houston, Texas, in a deal worth \$530 million. The companies will combine their T-cell based technologies to develop bispecific immunotherapies targeting multiple cancers. [Read More](#)

### 9. [Otsuka in \\$1-Billion Pact for Anemia Drug](#)

Otsuka Pharmaceutical has formed a collaboration in the US for a late-stage anemia drug, vadadustat, with Akebia Therapeutics, a Cambridge, Massachusetts-based biopharmaceutical company, in a deal valued up to \$1 billion. The companies intend to share commercialization efforts, costs and revenues. [Read More](#)

### 10. [2016 NME Drug Approvals Drop After Recent Highs](#)

In 2016, the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research approved 22 new molecular entities (NMEs), a drop of 51% from 2015, when 45 NMEs were approved, representing a six-year low for NME approvals. [Read More](#)

## 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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