

NPPA move to fix prices of more combination drugs could effect cos like Ipca Lab, Lupin, Torrent Pharma

Pharma cos may be hit by new price controls

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Mumbai: The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has fixed prices of ten combination drugs under Drugs Prices Control Order (DPCO), 2013. This is a part of a recent move taken by the NPPA to fix or revise prices in respect of 56 formulation packs, both existing and retail price packs, under DPCO, 2013.

These combinations are referred to as "new drug" under paragraph 2(i) of the DPCO, 2013. Of the ten combinations included by NPPA under DPCO, 2013, combination of paracetamol and mefenamic acid suspension was a part of earlier DPCO, 1995. The nine remaining combinations such as Diclofenac HCl with combination,

Axorvastatin with combination, Cyclosporine with combination, Pyrimethamine with Sulphamethoxypryridazine (MALARCON), Metformin Hydrochloride with Glimepiride and Pioglitazone, Tramadol and Diclofenac combination, Ceftriaxone HCl with Paracetamol and Phenylephrine HCl, Bisoprolol Fumarate with Amlodipine, and Glimepiride with Metformin Hydrochloride are included for the first time. All these mentioned formulations are based on bulk drugs.

Some of the manufacturers who are producing these combination drugs include Ipca Laboratories, Mantrid Pharma, Cadila Healthcare, Lupin, Torrent Pharmaceuticals, Alambic Pharma and Metro Labs. Pharma analyst Ranjit Kapadia



of Centrum Broking said, "While one of them was a part of DPCO 1995, the other combinations are new additions to the DPCO, 2013. However, what would be the impact of this is yet to be estimated, since these are relatively small products."

The NPPA in its order said the retail price for a pack of the formulation would be arrived at by the concerned manufacturer in accordance with the retail price specified in the DPCO, 2013. "The manufacturer should issue a price list in Form-V as per the paragraph 24 (2) of the DPCO, 2013," said the order, adding that the manufacturer may add local taxes only if they have paid actually or it is payable to the government on the retail price. However, in case the retail price of the formulation is not complied then the concerned manufacturer/marketing company should be liable to deposit over-charged amount along with the interest thereon under the provisions of the DPCO, 2013, it added.

Retail price of some combination drugs under DPCO, 2013 as fixed by NPPA

Cyclosporine Microemulsion+ Benzalkonium Chloride Eye Drops (CYLDDROP)	Axorvastatin Calcium + Clodigrel Bisulphate Capsules (ELOPTAB CV 10)
Diclofenac HCl+ Diclofenac Sodium+ Benzalkonium Chloride Injection	Glimepiride + Metformin HCl Tablet (Azulk 4 MF)
Tramadol + Diclofenac SR Tablets	Glimepiride + Metformin HCl Tablet (Azulk 3 MF)

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