

PNC PHARMA & LIFE SCIENCES

Monthly News Brief

July 2021

COVID-19

[**Pfizer Expects COVID Vaccine Sales to Reach \\$33.5B this Year, \\$7.5B Bump from its Estimate 3 Months Ago**](#) *(FiercePharma)*

Along with its second quarter earnings results, Pfizer announced based on contracts signed through mid-July, 2.1 billion doses of its COVID-19 vaccine are expected to be delivered globally in 2021. These doses will be sold at an average price of \$15.95

[**Pfizer and BioNTech Provide Update on Booster Program in Light of the Delta-Variant**](#) *(Pfizer)*

Encouraging data has come out of an ongoing booster trial of a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. While both companies believe a third dose has the potential to preserve the highest levels of protective efficacy against all currently known virus strands, an updated vaccine that targets the full spike protein of the Delta variant is already in development

2Q21 Earnings Results

[**Thermo Fisher Slashes COVID-19 Testing Guidance by \\$900M**](#) *(MedTech Dive)*

The company expects full-year COVID-19 testing related revenue to come in at \$4.9 billion, \$3.8 billion of which was delivered in the first half of the year. The company did raise 2021 company guidance by \$300 million, though top executives at the company commented that “de-risking the outlook” on COVID-19 testing was the right thing to do

[**Boston Scientific Tops Expectations with 53% Sales Growth Over 2020**](#) *(FierceBiotech)*

Each of BSX’s three main business segments increase their revenues by more than half. With the return to routine medical care, it makes sense that medtech companies are outpacing last year’s performance amid lockdowns and early pandemic uncertainty

Novel Medicine

[**Viatrix Gets FDA Approval for Interchangeable Biosimilar Semglee for Diabetes Treatment**](#) *(Nasdaq)*

Semglee is the first substitution for the existing reference product, Lantus, that is approved to control high blood sugar in adults and pediatric patients with Type 1 diabetes. Viatrix is eligible to have exclusivity for 12 months before another interchangeable biosimilar can be approved

[**Lilly Diabetes Drug Could Bring \\$10B to Diverse Blockbuster Pipeline**](#) *(S&P Global)*

Positive late stage data for the drug tirzepatide could add to what analysts have described as a promising pipeline of new treatments. The blood sugar and weight-loss results demonstrate benefits not seen with prior diabetes therapies

[**Gene Therapy for Sickle Cell Disease: Progress and Competition**](#) *(Biopharma Dive)*

A handful of companies are looking to not just treat one of the world’s most common inherited blood disorders, but potentially cure it. The broad goal is to fix the mutations that cause sickle cell through gene editing technologies

[**Cleveland Clinic, Mount Sinai and Providence Won’t Give Biogen’s New Alzheimer’s Drug**](#) *(MarketWatch)*

These large hospitals are declining to administer Aduhelm amidst the FDA’s controversial approval of the drug last month. The move comes as some health insurers also restrict access to the therapy. While some doctors have been quick to prescribe it, others have criticized the FDA for clearing the drug before studies proved it works

Opioid Litigation

[**Drug Distributors, Johnson & Johnson Reach \\$26 Billion Deal to Resolve Opioid Lawsuits**](#) *(Washington Post)*

A bipartisan group of attorneys general announced the agreement with McKesson, Cardinal Health, AmerisourceBergen and J&J potentially releasing the companies from current and future litigation. The offer will now go to every state, city, and county in the country to decide on participation. If critical mass is reached, funds could begin to be released by the companies by September

[**15 States Reach \\$4.5 Billion Settlement in Purdue Pharma Opioid Lawsuit**](#) *(Axios)*

The agreement will see Purdue Pharma release millions of documents, and the Sackler family, which owns the company, will deliver \$4.5 billion total over the next nine years into communities ravaged by opioids

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