



Future Blockbusters

Potential blockbuster products in late-stage development

Products	Company	Therapeutic class	Description
Denosumab	Amgen Inc.	Osteoporosis and cancer-related indications	Denosumab is the first fully human monoclonal antibody in late-stage clinical development that specifically targets RANK ligand. RANK ligand is an essential regulator of osteoclasts, the cells that break down bone. Denosumab is being investigated for its potential to inhibit all stages of osteoclast activity through a targeted mechanism.
PCV13	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals	Pneumococcal disease	Wyeth's investigational 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine PCV13 may offer broader protection against pneumococcal disease in infants and young children compared with the company's Prevnar pneumococcal 7-valent conjugate vaccine. Data from a pivotal trial and three other Phase III studies indicate that PCV13 may be as effective as Prevnar in helping to prevent invasive pneumococcal disease due to the seven serotypes shared by the vaccines and may provide expanded coverage for six additional serotypes found worldwide.
Almorexant	GlaxoSmithKline and Actelion Ltd.	Insomnia	Almorexant is an orexin receptor antagonist in Phase III development with first-in-class potential as a treatment for primary insomnia.
Prasugrel	Daiichi Sankyo and Eli Lilly and Co.	Acute coronary syndromes	Prasugrel is an investigational oral antiplatelet agent discovered by Daiichi Sankyo Co. and its Japanese research partner, Ube Industries Ltd. The product is being jointly developed by Daiichi Sankyo and Eli Lilly and Co. as a potential treatment for patients with acute coronary syndromes who are being managed with an artery-opening procedure known as percutaneous coronary intervention, which is usually followed by the placement of a stent to help keep the artery open.
ASA404	Novartis Pharmaceuticals	Tumour vascular disrupting agent	ASA404, formerly known as AS1404, is a potentially first-in-class tumour vascular disrupting agent. The drug targets the blood vessels that nourish tumours.

*Adapted from *Med Ad News*, February 2009

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