

Dr Reddy's launches cancer blockbuster nivolumab biosimilar in India

The drug will be marketed in single-dose vial presentations of 40 mg, 100 mg and 240 mg strengths to be manufactured at the company's Bachupally-based biologics facility in Hyderabad.



Hyderabad: Ending Zydus Lifesciences free run, Dr Reddy's Laboratories announced the commercial launch of Nivorz, a biosimilar alternative of Bristol Myers Squibb's

targeted immunotherapy, nivolumab in India.

The launch marks Hyderabad-based drugmaker entry into India's immuno-oncology market, which it estimates to be around Rs 3,900 crore, with nivolumab, pembrolizumab and toripalimab commanding the lion's share of the segment.

"As access to immunotherapy continues to be a challenge for many patients, the launch of Nivorz strengthens our oncology portfolio and expands our presence in immuno-oncology," said M.V. Ramana, CEO Global Generics, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories.

The biosimilar was evaluated under a multi-country clinical trial involving 288 patients, (252 from India and 36 from Russia), and is stated to have demonstrated "comparable efficacy, safety, and immunogenicity to the reference drug.

Dr Reddy's brand will be marketed in single-dose vial presentations across 40 mg, 100mg and 240 mg strengths, to be manufactured at the company's Bachupally-based biologics facility in Hyderabad.

The company did not disclose the drug's market price.

Nivolumab, a novel biologic is indicated for the treatment of 12 cancer indications such as Melanoma, Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC), Renal Cell Carcinoma (Kidney Cancer), Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (HNSCC), and several others.

It follows the novel checkpoint mechanism of blocking the PD-1 receptor on T-cells and helps the immune system mount a stronger and more sustained response against tumors.

Opdivo (nivolumab) is one of the leading sales asset of BMS, marketed across more than 65 countries, which racked up over \$10 billion in 2025.

Ahmedabad-based Zydus Lifesciences became the first drugmaker to launch a biosimilar alternative in January this year, following a legal battle with the innovator.

The company's brand Tishtha is available in 100 mg and 40 mg dosage strengths, priced at Rs. 28,950 and Rs 13,950 respectively. It claims the brand to be one-fourth of the innovator's brand price.

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