

MedinCell

Long-acting injectable drug delivery vehicle

MedinCell is developing long-acting injectable (LAI) products using its proprietary BEPO copolymer technology with active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) for optimal drug delivery. Partnered with Teva, MedinCell is developing three CNS products, the most advanced of which is a two-month subcutaneous (SC) risperidone LAI in Phase III for schizophrenia, with interim data expected in H219. MedinCell is also working with the Arthritis Innovation Corporation (AIC) on a celecoxib LAI for post-surgical pain and inflammation in Phase II, with data expected in summer 2019.

Targeting schizophrenia with Teva

Schizophrenia is a severe mental illness that requires a strict drug regimen. Other intramuscular LAIs have been developed to combat non-adherence including Otsuka's Abilify Maintena (FY17 sales: \$632m) as well as Janssen's Risperdal Consta (\$805m) and Invega franchise (\$2,569m). Interestingly, a [UCLA study](#) found that psychotic relapse was significantly lower for Risperdal Consta (intramuscular risperidone) versus oral risperidone ($p < 0.004$) and that treatment with the LAI led to significantly improved medication adherence over oral ($p < 0.001$). MedinCell is developing mdc-IRM as a ready-to-use (ie does not require reconstitution or dosing initiation regimen) two-month SC LAI formulation of risperidone, which may increase compliance and can potentially reduce morbidity and costs of care. Interim data from its 596-patient Phase III trial are expected to read out in H219, with full data in H120. Teva is responsible for all development costs and MedinCell is entitled to up to \$366m in milestones (for all three CNS programs partnered with Teva) and high single-digit royalties on tiered net sales.

Post-op pain management and pipeline expansion

MedinCell is also developing mdc-CWM, a celecoxib LAI for pain and inflammation following total knee replacement surgery. The 50-patient Phase II trial is expected to read out this summer. AIC is responsible for all development costs with 50/50 profit sharing. In addition to three products in development, MedinCell has seven early-stage programs covering a wide range of indications including contraception (partnered with the Gates Foundation), organ transplant, pain, depression and schizophrenia.

Valuation: EV of c €130m post-IPO

MedinCell's enterprise value is c €130m following its €31.4m IPO in October 2018. The company intends to use the proceeds to expand and further develop its proprietary product portfolio and accelerate its technology platform, where we see future upside potential.

Consensus estimates

Year end	Revenue (€m)	PBT (€m)	EPS (€)	DPS (€)	P/E (x)	Yield (%)
03/17	9.95	(4.89)	(0.25)	0.0	N/A	N/A
03/18	8.30	(9.22)	(0.66)	0.0	N/A	N/A
03/19e	1.40	(-17.40)	(0.87)	0.0	N/A	N/A
03/20e	3.00	(-17.00)	(0.85)	0.0	N/A	N/A

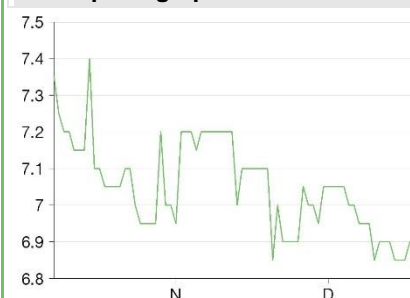
Source: Bloomberg

Pharma & biotech

20 December 2018

Price €6.85
Market cap €138m

Share price graph



Share details

Code MEDCL
 Listing Euronext Paris
 Shares in issue 20.1m

Business description

MedinCell is a pharmaceutical company developing long-acting injectable products by integrating its proprietary BEPO copolymer technology with marketed active pharmaceutical ingredients to optimise drug delivery for several indications. MedinCell has three products in development with seven additional products in early-stage formulation. Its two most advanced programs in schizophrenia and post-operative pain and inflammation are currently in Phase III and Phase II trials, respectively.

Bull

- Phase III and Phase II programs are in large indications with significant potential.
- BEPO technology platform is validated by the partnership with Teva.
- Portfolio of APIs have demonstrated efficacy across a broad range of indications.

Bear

- Several large pharma players with marketed LAIs for schizophrenia.
- Navigating the FDA pain division may pose a challenge.
- Not in full control of clinical development due to partnerships in most advanced programs.

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