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Aurobindo Pharma faces patent infringement cases in U.S.

HYDERABAD: Three multinational drug makers — The Medicines Company, Hospira and Kowa Company Ltd — in separate cases — have dragged Indian firm Aurobindo Pharma to court on allegations of patent infringement.

According to the petition copies, Hospira has alleged that Aurobindo Pharma's Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA) to make generic version of dexmedetomidine hydrochloride injection would infringe its patented drug Precedex.

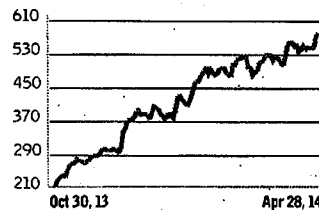
Aurobindo Pharma officials were unavailable for comments.

Hospira filed the petition in the U.S. District Court of Delaware. The drug is used for the sedation of initially intubated and mechanically ventilated patients during treatment in an intensive care setting.

Similarly, the Medicines Company in a separate petition filed in the District Court of New Jersey alleged that the Indian drug maker's ANDA would infringe on its drug, Angiomax, on two counts.

Angiomax (bivalirudin) is used as an anticoagulant in patients with unstable angina undergoing percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty. Kowa in its petition filed in District Court of Southern District of New

Aurobindo Pharma Rs.509.10



York alleged that Aurobindo Pharma's recent ANDA with U.S. Food and Drug Administration would infringe on its patented drug Livalo (Pitavastatin) on four counts.

Pitavastatin is used as an adjunctive therapy to diet to reduce elevated total cholesterol, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, apolipoprotein B, triglycerides, and to increase high-density lipoprotein cholesterol.

"Plaintiff request the following relief...a permanent injunction restraining and enjoining against any infringement by defendants...of the Livalo patents, through the commercial manufacture, use, sale, offer for sale or importation into the United States of Aurobindo Pharma's pitavastatin drug product or any drug product containing Pitavastatin," Kowa prayed the court in its petition.

Kowa also filed a similar petition against another Indian drug maker Zydus Pharmaceuticals on the same drug. — PTI

Patent.