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Sanofi junks Glenmark's painkiller molecule

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MUMBAI

French drug multinational Sanofi SA has terminated a licensing deal signed with India's Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd in 2010 for a novel chronic pain management drug candidate, GRC 15300, after the new chemical entity failed the Phase II proof-of-concept trial.

Sanofi discontinued the trial of this molecule in the March quarter and will return the rights to Glenmark, said a person familiar with the development.

"This project has been terminated and (we) had announced (this) in our most recent Document de Reference," confirmed Jack Cox, Sanofi's senior director, corporate media relations, in an email response.

This is the second major blow for Glenmark this year after it lost a patent suit to Abbott Laboratories in the US in March, resulting in potential damages and expenses of about ₹217 crore to be paid to

TURN TO PAGE 2▶

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