

► **Pharma seen muted**

The pharmaceutical sector, typically a defensive play when the equity market is choppy, is likely to remain muted in the next five sessions as the broader market is seen gaining due to the hike in fuel prices, dealers said. "Except for a few stocks, healthcare index will mainly depend on the market. If market is up, shares of pharmaceutical companies will remain down to flat in the coming week," an analyst with a domestic brokerage said. However, a few pharmaceutical stocks may outperform the healthcare index based on stock specific actions, dealers said.

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