

Piramal Targets Leadership in Developing Antibody Drug Conjugates

Piramal Enterprises' Pharma Solutions has set a target to become a market leader in Antibody Drug Conjugates (ADCs) contract commercialization over the next five years based on its focused investments at its current site in Grangemouth, UK and its recent acquisition of Coldstream—a specialized ADC fill/finish site in Kentucky, U.S.

The CDMO sees the market for commercial ADCs accelerating over the next few years and a steady increase in number of potential drug targets entering into the clinical phase. Piramal expects about eight drugs to move into its commercial production by 2020, which is a significant jump considering it only manufactures one commercial product today. The CDMO suggests that despite the increase in development targets for ADCs, the global contract-manufacturing sector remains significantly under resourced with only a handful of players with experience and even less with the required regulatory accreditations.

In its fifth year of commercial production on the first commercial ADC in the market, Piramal is looking ahead five years to cement its position as a leader in manufacturing of ADCs. Over the past decade, Piramal has gradually expanded its internal teams and has nearly 150 ADCs specialists across its global sites.

Piramal views the acquisition of Coldstream's fill finish site earlier this year as the final piece in the jigsaw puzzle and is now bullish about its prospects in the market.

Present bottlenecks begin with the small number of quality CMOs that can bring a product through clinical development and the uneven spread of targets with most currently in very early stage research. Recognizing this, Piramal has introduced a new "Proof of Concept" service, designed to bring the most promising targets into clinical development more quickly. 🌐

Alpha Technologies Masking Sensory Features of Drugs



When formulating oral medicines, scientists face the challenges of masking the bitter taste of active principles or off-odors of some ingredients. The unpleasant taste or odor of oral medications can be a cause of rejection during treatment.

Alpha has developed technologies to assess the sensory features of drugs.

With more than 20 years of experience in assessing the taste and odor of pharmaceutical products with its Electronic Tongue and Electronic Nose, Alpha provides a customized answer to the formulation departments needs within pharmaceutical laboratories, such as: testing bitterness masking efficiency; assessing taste and flavors stability over time; evaluating bitterness intensity; checking placebo taste matching; and measuring residual solvents in products.

By outsourcing organoleptic testing of oral forms at Alpha laboratory, clients will be able to:

- Improve drug palatability and patient acceptance: Ensure the bitter taste of the active principle is properly masked or the bad odor from an excipient cannot be smelled.
- Select the best ingredients objectively: Choose the aromas and excipients that will guarantee a consistent taste and odor over ageing.
- Increase clinical trials reliability: Avoid bias in double blind tests by proposing a placebo that tastes like the active formulation.
- Reduce time to market: Include sensory testing from the earliest stages of development and speed up the overall formulation development. 🌐

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