Wockhardt receives US FDA approval for generic version of Parkinsonism drug Requip XL®

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Pharmaceutical and biotechnology major Wockhardt has received US FDA approval for marketing a generic version of 2mg, 4mg, 6mg, 8mg & 12mg extended-release tablets containing Ropinirole hydrochloride, which is used in the treatment of Parkinson’s disease. Ropinirole extended release tablet is the generic name for the brand Requip XL®, marketed in the US by Glaxo SmithKline. Wockhardt will launch the product as soon as possible.

According to IMS Health, the total market for this product in the US is about $58 million and the incidence of Parkinson’s disease has been increasing worldwide.

“This is the sixth US FDA approval for Wockhardt in the past 2 weeks,” said Dr. Habil Khorakiwala, Wockhardt Founder Chairman & Group CEO. “Three of these have been for extended-release products. This continues to demonstrate Wockhardt’s capability in developing technologically challenging products” he further added.

In the US generic pharmaceutical market, Wockhardt has been consistently growing market shares for all its products. In many instances, Wockhardt, by virtue of being amongst the few players to market technically challenging products has reaped the advantage of being an early entrant.

Wockhardt will be manufacturing the extended release tablets of Ropinirole at its facility in Aurangabad, India. The technology for the tablets was developed in-house.

About Wockhardt:

Wockhardt is a high-technology intensive global pharmaceutical and biotechnology company with multi-disciplinary and innovative R&D programmes. It has 3 research centres globally and manufacturing facilities across India, USA, UK and Ireland. Wockhardt has a significant presence in USA, Europe and India, with 75% of its global revenues coming from international businesses. With a large pool of Patents and Intellectual Property knowhow, Wockhardt is home to 578 scientists, of whom 80 are doctorates. In all, Wockhardt has 164 Patents granted worldwide. In biotechnology research, it has built a competent ‘Concept to Market’ capabilities in all facets of development and manufacture of recombinant biopharmaceuticals. Wockhardt boasts of a multi-ethnic workforce of more than 7,900 people from 21 different nationalities.

Requip XL® is a registered trademark of Glaxo SmithKline.