Sector View

Last Price

Pharmaceuticals

Is SOBI or Bioverativ a future target for Novo?

	1 M	3 M	6 M	31/12/15
Healthcare	-5.7%	-10.6%	-5.3%	-13.3%
DJ Stoxx 600	0.4%	-0.3%	-1.9%	-6.6%
*Stoxx Sector Indices				

Companies covered							
ACTELION		NEUTRAL	CHF180				
Last Price	CHF143.3	Market Cap.	CHF15,442m				
ASTRAZENECA		BUY	5220p				
Last Price	4614.5p	Market Cap.	GBP58,374m				
BAYER		NEUTRAL	EUR98				
Last Price	EUR90.73	Market Cap.	EUR75,029m				
GLAXOSMITHKLINE		BUY 1930p					
Last Price	1630.5p	Market Cap.	GBP79,499m				
GRIFOLS		NEUTRAL	EUR20				
Last Price	EUR18.14	Market Cap.	EUR11,255m				
IPSEN		BUY	EUR72				
Last Price	EUR63.48	Market Cap.	EUR5,293m				
NOVARTIS		NEUTRAL	CHF81				
Last Price	CHF71.4	Market Cap.	CHF187,576m				
NOVO NORDISK		NEUTRAL	DKK355				
Last Price	DKK279.3	Market Cap. DKK562,109m					
ROCHE HOLDING		BUY	CHF285				
Last Price	CHF230.3	Market Cap.	CHF161,800m				
SANOFI		NEUTRAL	EUR83				
Last Price	EUR68.86	Market Cap.	EUR88,769m				
SHIRE PLC		BUY	6900p				
Last Price	4950p	Market Cap.	GBP44,697m				
SOBI		SELL	SEK90				
Last Price	EUR95.85	Market Cap.	EUR25,917m				
UCB		NEUTRAL	EUR80				



EUR64.53 Market Cap. EUR12,551m

Last Friday, NOVO's CFO explicitly stated there is a potential for M&A in the Haemophilia field. We believe that Eloctate could be a nice fit within the big pharma's portfolio... But BIIB's future spin-off (namely Bioverativ) would be the prime target vs SOBI in our view, given its 1/ pure-player status, and 2/ already strong patient base in the US. We stick to our positive stance on SHP and ROG while we remain quite cautious on NOVO, GFS and SOBI

ANALYSIS

- Haemophilia as a way to diversify NOVO's portfolio. Such move would make sense in our view as 1/ NovoSeven is set to lose further shares in the Inhibitor sub-segment, especially once ROG's ACE910 reaches the market (BG: 2018e, knowing that its Phase III results are still expected in Q4 16); 2/ NOVO's R&D pipeline is far from exhaustive when it comes to Haemophilia apart from N8-GP and N9-GP (so far we have solely identified concizumab, a Phase I mAb targeting TFPI).
- We see BIB's Bioverativ as a prime target. BIB's future spin-off would be a more attractive target in our view especially given 1/ its quasi-exclusive exposure to the US (the largest market with a share of c.40%) along with an already strong patient base there (both products already generating USD700m on an annualized basis); 2/ the to-be-confirmed potential of Eloctate for the desensitization of patients... which by the way may add more than USD1.0Bn to our current worldwide peak sales estimates; and 3/ its pure-player status, and thus the absence of assets deemed as "non-core" in Novo's view.
- SOBI is probably out of the scope. Conversely, SOBI is still in its early stages and exposed to the
 slightly less lucrative European market, and we believe its exposure to other rare diseases could be
 a blocking factor (not to mention its EBIT margin compared to NOVO's).
- The spinoff is expected to occur by the end of this year or early 2017. We foresee a valuation of USD5-6Bn based upon our combined sales estimates for Eloctate and Alprolix in the US (c.USD800m) and an EV/sales of 5-6x (in line with the average multiple seen with big biotechs). And no doubt that Novo has the means to support an acquisition of this size (the company benefiting from a positive net cash position). Our questions rather deal with the amount of potential cost/sales synergies that could be extracted from such deal.





FVIII Fc fusion

- Fc portion of fusion proteins, used in both ELOCTATE and ALPROLIX, may offer additional benefits beyond half-life extension
- Investigating immune tolerance induction with ELOCTATE

Next generation long-acting factors



rFVIIIFc-VWF-XTEN

 Long-acting hemophilia product candidate utilizing the XTEN technology to reduce infusion frequency and protection from bleeds

Gene therapy



Gene Therapy

 Working on gene therapy for the treatment of hemophilia A / B utilizing lentiviral vectors

VALUATION

 We reiterate our hierarchy within the Haemophilia segment. So we stick to our positive stance on SHP and ROG while we remain quite cautious on NOVO, GFS and SOBI.

NEXT CATALYSTS

Q4 16: ROG's ACE910 Phase III results.

Click here to download document



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Stock rating

BUY

Positive opinion for a stock where we expect a favourable performance in absolute terms over a period of 6 months from the publication of a recommendation. This opinion is based not only on the FV (the potential upside based on valuation), but also takes into account a number of elements that could include a SWOT analysis, momentum, technical aspects or the sector backdrop. Every subsequent published update on the stock will feature an introduction outlining the key reasons behind the opinion.

NEUTRAL

Opinion recommending not to trade in a stock short-term, neither as a BUYER or a SELLER, due to a specific set of factors. This view is intended to be temporary. It may reflect different situations, but in particular those where a fair value shows no significant potential or where an upcoming binary event constitutes a high-risk that is difficult to quantify. Every subsequent published update on the stock will feature an introduction outlining the key reasons behind the opinion.

SELL

Negative opinion for a stock where we expect an unfavourable performance in absolute terms over a period of 6 months from the publication of a recommendation. This opinion is based not only on the FV (the potential downside based on valuation), but also takes into account a number of elements that could include a SWOT analysis, momentum, technical aspects or the sector backdrop. Every subsequent published update on the stock will feature an introduction outlining the key reasons behind the opinion.

Distribution of stock ratings

BUY ratings 72%

NEUTRAL ratings 0%

SELL ratings 28%

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