



## Press Release

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# Strides collaborates with Gilead Sciences

- **Agreement to promote availability of Emtricitabine based Antiretroviral therapy**
- **Gilead to provide technology transfer for manufacture of Emtricitabine**
- **Supplies to developing countries**

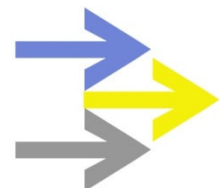
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**August 6, 2012, Bangalore:** Strides Arcolab Limited announced today that it has entered into an in-licensing agreement, an agreement to collaborate with Gilead Sciences, Inc. to promote access to high-quality, low-cost generic versions of Gilead’s HIV medicine emtricitabine (FTC) in developing countries – including fixed-dose combinations of emtricitabine co-formulated with other Gilead HIV medicines. Under the new agreement Gilead will provide a technology transfer for the manufacture of emtricitabine, together with funding to assist with investment in process improvements to reduce overall manufacturing costs.

World Health Organization guidelines recommend emtricitabine along with tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF), as preferred components of first and second-line HIV therapy. However, cost is currently a barrier to broadening access to regimens that include emtricitabine when compared to other regimens, including widely used lamivudine (3TC) based regimens. Recently, the US FDA approved the two drug combination FTC/ TDF as preventive treatment to people at high risk of contracting HIV. The new agreement will therefore enable Strides to produce high volumes of FTC/ TDF & FTC/ TDF/ EFV based therapies, thereby establishing sustainable price parity to these alternative regimens

Commenting on the development, Mr. Arun Kumar, Managing Director & Group Vice-Chairman, Strides Arcolab Ltd. stated “We are pleased to associate with Gilead on this initiative that will provide access of high quality essential anti-retrovirals in the developing markets. This partnership will re-enforce our commitment to provide affordable drugs in the field of HIV/ AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to the low and middle income countries”.

Emtricitabine is marketed by Gilead under the brand name Emtriva<sup>®</sup>, and fixed-dose combination of emtricitabine and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate is made available under the brand name Truvada<sup>®</sup>. Emtricitabine is also an essential component of the Quad, an



investigational treatment which combines four Gilead medicines in a once-daily, single tablet regimen for the treatment of HIV.

### **About Strides Arcolab**

Strides Arcolab, listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange Limited (532531) and National Stock Exchange of India Limited (STAR), is a global pharmaceutical company headquartered in Bangalore, India that develops and manufactures a wide range of IP-led niche pharmaceutical products with an emphasis on sterile injectables.

The company has 14 manufacturing facilities across 6 countries with presence in more than 75 countries in developed and emerging markets. Manufacturing is ably supported by a 350-scientist strong global R&D Centre located in Bangalore.

Additional information is available at the company's website at [www.stridesarco.com](http://www.stridesarco.com).

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