

MEDIA SUMMARY REPORT

HEALTH ISSUE

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Aspirin prevents colorectal cancer

Colorectal cancer occurs more among women than men and its prevention can be done by consuming aspirin, based on Women's Health Study. The research team studied 33,682 volunteers divided into two consumer groups: aspirin and placebo, and results show that the aspirin group has 20% lower risk of colorectal cancer than placebo group. This is an evidence that aspirin has positive effect on colorectal cancer, said Andrew Chan, physician in Massachusetts General Hospital. There are 102,480 individuals with new colorectal cancer case each year and 50,830 of them die because of the disease.

Person quoted (s): dr. Andrew Chan, physician in Massachusetts General Hospital

PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT POLICY

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Rupiah depreciated, lowering pharmaceutical issuer's performance

The performance of public pharmaceutical companies during the last six months is disappointing. Among nine companies listed in Indonesia Stock Exchange (BEI), only four (such as PT Merck Tbk and PT Kalbe Farma) that have generated profit growth. Merck has seen rising revenues (32.33%) in this first semester while Kalbe Farma (KLBF) has 18.85% growth in revenues to Rp7.42 trillion. PT KLBF anticipated dollar appreciation by saving production costs and increasing its prices, said Vidjongtius, Chairman and Company Secretary for PT KLBF. PT KLBF targets aims 18% profit growth this year. In contrast, PT INAF generated net loss of Rp9.29 billion because it needs to wait e-catalog list and 90% of its raw materials are imported, said John Sebayang, CFO for INAF. Meanwhile, PT KAEF has lower net profit (47.13%) to Rp42.77 billion. The lower profit is not only caused by rupiah depreciation but also caused by wrong production strategy in anticipating the rising expenses, said Jhon Veter, Managing Director of Investa Saran Mandiri.

Person quoted (s): Vidjongtius, Chairman, PT Kalbe Farma
John Sebayang, CFO, PT Indofarma
Jhon Veter, Managing Director, Investa Saran Mandiri