

HEALTH ISSUE

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The deceiving parkinson's disease

Parkinson's disease is a progressive degenerative disease caused by dopamine-rich substantia nigra cell death in the brain. Parkinson's disease does not show specific symptoms, although it has similar symptoms with stroke, Alzheimer and brain disorder. However, 25 percent of patients show early symptoms of tremor, fatigue, imbalance posture and slower movement, said Diari Nari Lastri, Secretary General of Indonesian Neurologist Association (PERDOSSI). Parkinson's disease treatment takes a long time and patients usually take levodopa, a dopaminergic drug, to reduce tremor and to improve body movement. However, consuming levodopa in the long term may cause motoric disorder. In addition to pharmacological therapy, Parkinson's disease can be treated by nonpharmacological therapies such as education, speech, nutrition, family support and artwork program. In particular, artwork can help patients to improve decision making ability, said Banon Sukoandri, Head of Indonesian Parkinson Care Foundation (YPPI).

Person quoted (s): dr Diari Nari Lastri, Sp.S(K), Secretary General, PERDOSSI
dr. Banon Sukoandri, Sp.S, President, YPPI

PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT POLICY

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KLBF anticipates rupiah weakening

The rupiah weakening may affect PT Kalbe Farma Tbk (KLBF) performance as it imports most of raw materials. Almost all pharmaceutical companies import their raw materials, said Teuku Hendy Andrean, analyst at Woori Korindo Securities. However, KLBF management said that the effect will be felt five to six months ahead since PT KLBF still has inventory, thus giving the company more time to prepare, said Vidjongtius, Finance Director and Corporate Secretary for PT KLBF. PT KLBF will not immediately raise price to anticipate rupiah weakening, although it has raised price by 3% earlier this year. The company will lower its costs by seeking cheaper raw material supply and implementing efficient production process. Through first semester of 2013, PT KLBF revenue increased 18.85% to Rp7.42 trillion, profit increased 14.21% (Rp921.99 billion) and stock price increased 3.08% to Rp1,340 per share.

Person quoted (s): Teuku Hendy Andrean, analyst, Woori Korindo Securities
Vidjongtius, Finance Director and Corporate Secretary, PT KLBF

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Johnson & Johnson prepared US\$3 billion to settle dispute

Johnson & Johnson is planning to pay more than US\$3 billion to settle hip implant recall dispute. The New Jersey based company is facing 11,500 lawsuits and going to pay compensation US\$300,000 per case. The case started when DePuy, a Johnson & Johnson's business unit, recalled 93,000 hip implants after 12% of them showed damages after being used for five years.

Person quoted (s): Teuku Hendy Andrean, analyst, Woori Korindo Securities
Vidjongtius, Finance Director and Corporate Secretary, PT KLBF
