

New products help GSK post 8% growth in Q2 net

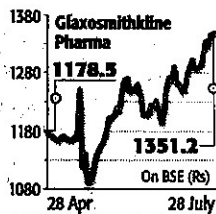
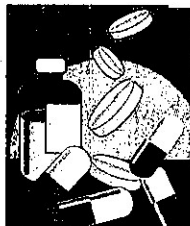
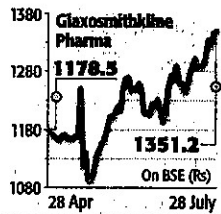
Higher Treasury Income Also Helps Lift Profit To Rs 124 Cr

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GLAXOSMITHKLINE (GSK) Pharmaceuticals has recorded a 8.2% growth in net profit for the second quarter ended June 30, propped up by a higher treasury income and launch of its new products. The company's net profit stood at Rs 124.4 crore this quarter compared with Rs 114.9 crore for the same period of the previous financial year. GSK Pharma's revenues jumped 9.7% to Rs 457.4 crore from Rs 416.9 crore in the corresponding quarter last year.

GSK Pharma MD Hasit Joshipura told ET NOW — this newspaper's business channel — "Net profit was positively impacted by treasury income, while sales growth was on account of the launch of new products, ahead of schedule. Recent launches include Arixtra (antithrombotic agent), Rotarix (rotavirus diarrhoea vaccine) and Tykerb (refractory breast cancer drug)."

GSK Pharma has seen sales doubling



Rs 457 Cr

NET REVENUE FOR THE
CURRENT QUARTER

12%

RISE IN VACCINE
SEGMENT'S SALES

Rs 1,685 Cr

CASH ON CO'S BOOKS
CURRENTLY

in the vaccines segment. Vaccines, which earlier comprised 6% of the sales, accounted for 12% for the most recent quarter. According to Mr Joshipura, future growth will be driven by new product launches from the stable of the parent company. On Tuesday, the GSK Pharma stock was up 0.28% to close at Rs 1351.15 on BSE.

GSK Pharma currently has \$350 million (approximately Rs 1,685 crore) of cash on its books and is looking at utilising this money in two ways. "We are looking at acquiring brands for which some have already been shortlisted. We are looking for a strategic fit and if that exists, we will go out and buy them," he told ET NOW.