

## GSK's cancer drugs

GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals (GSK) is set to launch two cancer drugs in the country—Revolade and Votrient. ▶ 3

# GSK Pharma launches two more cancer drugs

BS REPORTER  
Mumbai, 22 July

GLAXOSMITHKLINE Pharmaceuticals (GSK) Limited has further strengthened its presence in the oncology space in India with the launch two drugs—Revolade and Votrient.

Votrient (pazopanib hydrochloride tablets) is for treating advanced renal cell carcinoma (RCC), the most common type of kidney cancer. According to estimates, 8,900 new cases of kidney cancer are reported every year in India and 5,733 people suffering from the disease died in 2008. Worldwide

the number of renal cell carcinoma (RCC) is rising by two per cent annually, the company said.

The company said 800 mg Votrient tablets for a month will cost ₹58,000 and Revolade will cost around ₹27,000 per month for 25 mg tablets per day. The oncology market size is estimated at ₹1,200 crore and growing at a rate of 16-17 per cent.

The the Indian arm of the global pharma major had announced its presence in the oncology space with two drugs Tykerb, for treating breast cancer and Cervarix, a vaccine against cervical cancer earlier. Tykerb costs ₹50,000

(five tablets of 250 mg per day) per month. GSK, a relatively new player in the oncology segment in India, is expected to gain 2-3 per cent share in the market in the next two years through new launches.

Revolade (eltrombopag) is approved for oral treatment of thrombocytopenia (reduced platelet count) in adults with blood disorder chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura. A number of ongoing trials are investigating the use of Revolade for thrombocytopenia in other conditions, where reduced levels of platelets may interfere with treatment.