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Bangalore: Ranbaxy Pharmaceuticals, a wholly owned subsidiary of Ranbaxy Laboratories, has launched authorized generic pioglitazone hydrochloride tablets in the US market, under an agreement with Takeda Pharmaceuticals USA.

Pioglitazone hydrochloride tablets is an oral antidiabetic agent that acts primarily by decreasing insulin resistance, presently distributed by Takeda Pharmaceuticals America, under the brand name Actos. The product is indicated for patients as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycemic controls in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Actos generated total annualized sales of \$2.7 billion in the US (IMS - MAT June 2012).

Bill Winter, vice president, trade sales and distribution, North America, said, "Ranbaxy is making available the full range of generic pioglitazone in 15 mg, 30 mg, and 45 mg tablets. The introduction of generic pioglitazone hydrochloride tablets is a significant and important addition to our portfolio of antidiabetic products in the US. The launch further complements our resolve to bring high quality, affordable generic medicines as early as possible to the US healthcare system."