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Gout therapeutics market clocks $988.7 mn in 2011

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Gout therapeutics market clocked $988.7 mn in 2011: GlobalData



Singapore:Ã?Â GlobalData's analysis shows that the global gout therapeutics market grew at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 13.4 percent from $527.4m in 2006 to $988.7 mn in 2011, and is predicted to grow further at a CAGR of 12.5 percent to reach $2.5 billion by 2019, providing further incentive for pharmaceutical companies to explore the market in future.

According to the report, pharmaceutical companies are scrambling to expand into the gout market, as it is now the most common form of inflammatory joint disease in men and women aged over 40 years, caused by genetic metabolic defects, kidney impairment, alcohol abuse and even meat-heavy diets. Prevalence has been rising steadily over the last 20 years, due to the increased longevity of the population, alongside dietary changes and increases in obesity.

While the current gout therapeutics market is competitive, due to the availability of a number of treatments, there is a significant unmet need in due to safety concerns and treatment failures.

However, scope exists for new drug entrants able to safer and more effective treatments. As the present pipeline for new gout therapeutics is strong, with 12 molecules currently in development, it is hoped that the near future will see the healthcare sector produce these much-anticipated breakthroughs.

Gout is caused by the accumulation of uric acid crystals in the joints and their surrounding tissues, developing over years as the acid builds up, due to the kidney's failure to eliminate it from the body. This can cause acute attacks characterized by sudden and severe episodes of pain, stiffness and inflammation. Chronic gout can develop, causing chronic arthritis and permanent damage to the affected joints and sometimes to the kidneys.