



Insulin Dependent Diabetes Trust

News Archive 2003



Eli Lilly to discontinue animal insulin product

Economic Times India
3 January 2003.

MUMBAI: Drug major Eli Lilly will discontinue its animal insulin product 'Iletin' after this year and is planning to conduct trials for 'inhaled insulin' in the country. "Throughout the world, animal insulin has already been phased out and our product will be available only this year", Eli Lilly and Company India's Chairman and Managing director Rajiv Gulati told reporters on Friday after announcing a cut in the price for its human insulin product 'Huminsulin'.

A Huminsulin vial of 10 ml would now cost 33.5 per cent less at Rs

145 instead of earlier price of Rs 218, pegging it to prevailing prices of animal-derived insulin. "We are able to cut the price as the drug will now be manufactured at Sun Pharmaceuticals plant at Halol (Gujarat)", he said. Animal-sourced insulin has 50 per cent market share in India but the use of human insulin was growing, Gulati said.

On the new product development, he said, US-based parent company along with an Indian scientist is working on 'inhaled insulin' as an alternative to current injection-based doses and would launch erectile dysfunction drug 'Siales' in India next year.

The company would need to take the government's permission to conduct phase-II and III trials for the proposed inhaled version, he said, adding this drug would be available only five years down the line and cost more due to higher requirement of dose compared to the injectible product, he

said.

IDDT Note: The statement by Lilly India, managing director Rajiv Gulati that “Throughout the world, animal insulin has already been phased out...” is incorrect. It is certainly available in the US and Canada.

Insulin Dependent Diabetes Trust

PO Box 294
Northampton
NN1 4XS

tel: 01604 622837

fax: 01604 622838

e-mail: support@iddtinternational.org

website: www.iddtinternational.org