



January 20, 2022

**BSE Limited**  
Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers,  
Dalal Street, Mumbai – 400 001  
Scrip code: 532531

**The National Stock Exchange of India Limited**  
Exchange Plaza, Bandra-Kurla Complex  
Bandra (E) Mumbai - 400 051  
Scrip code: STAR

Dear Madam/ Sir,

**Sub: Press Release**

Please find attached Press Release issued by the Company titled:

**“Strides and its African subsidiary Universal Corporation partner with Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) to commercialize molnupiravir for the global markets”**

Thanks & Regards,  
For **Strides Pharma Science Limited**,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Manjula R.'.

**Manjula Ramamurthy**  
**Company Secretary**



Encl. As above

**Strides Pharma Science Limited**

CIN: L24230MH1990PLC057062

Corp Off: Strides House, Bilekahalli, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru - 560 076, India | Tel: +91 80 6784 0000 Fax: +91 80 6784 0700  
Regd Off: 201, Devavrata, Sector 17, Vashi, Navi Mumbai – 400 703, India | Tel: +91 22 2789 2924 / 3199 Fax: +91 22 2789 2942

corpcomm@strides.com, www.strides.com

## Strides and its African subsidiary Universal Corporation partner with Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) to commercialize molnupiravir for the global markets

- Strides and Universal Corporation Limited, Kenya (UCL) have licensing rights for commercializing molnupiravir drug substance & solid oral dosage in 105 countries
- Strides has already received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) to launch molnupiravir 200mg in India

**BENGALURU, INDIA – January 20, 2022** – Strides Pharma Science Limited (BSE: 532531, NSE: STAR, Company or Strides), a global pharmaceutical company, today announced its partnership with Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) to commercialize molnupiravir in the international markets.

Strides and its subsidiary, Universal Corporation Limited (Kenya), have entered into a voluntary non-exclusive sub-license partnership with MPP covering 105 countries as part of MSD (NYSE: MRK, a trading name of Merck & Co., Inc, Kenilworth, NJ, USA) and MPP's partnership to enable a global reach for molnupiravir. Strides and UCL will manufacture the product at their WHO PQ facilities in India and Nairobi, Kenya. UCL owns and operates one of the two WHO PQ facilities in the Sub-Saharan region.

In December 2021, Strides received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the DCGI to launch molnupiravir 200mg in India (*under the brand name Stripiravir™*). Besides the 200mg strength, Strides has also developed and manufactured molnupiravir in 400mg, which significantly benefits the patients by reducing the pill burden and ensuring better compliance.

**Dr. R Ananthanarayanan, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Strides Pharma Science Limited** said, *"We are pleased to partner with MPP for providing global accessibility of the generic molnupiravir both from India and Kenya. While our 200mg strength has been launched in India under our brand Stripiravir, this partnership will enable us to commercialize the 400mg dose along with 200mg dose for global markets, extending considerable patient benefits with higher compliance and better administration. With the challenging covid situation in different parts of the world, Strides group will continue to develop and manufacture high-quality generic products that would benefit the healthcare system and patients."*

Molnupiravir is an orally administered form of a potent ribonucleoside analog that inhibits the replication of SARS-CoV-2, and clinical studies have shown this drug to be active against the most common Covid-19 variants. The drug has been granted approval by the UK's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) as a safe and effective medication for patients with mild to moderate cases of COVID-19. The drugs also recently received the USFDA's Emergency Use Authorization. The drug was invented by Emory University (Atlanta, USA) and was developed by Merck & Co., Inc. in collaboration with Ridgeback Biotherapeutics.

### About Strides

Strides, listed on the BSE Limited (532531) and National Stock Exchange of India Limited (STAR), is a global pharmaceutical company headquartered in Bengaluru, India. The Company mainly operates in the regulated markets and has an "in Africa for Africa" strategy and an institutional business to service donor-funded markets. The Company's global manufacturing sites are located in India (Chennai, Puducherry and two locations in Bengaluru), Singapore, Italy (Milan), Kenya (Nairobi), and the United States (New York). The Company focuses on "difficult to manufacture" products sold in over 100 countries. Additional information is available at the Company's website at [www.strides.com](http://www.strides.com)

### For further information, please contact

<p><b>Strides</b> <b>Badree Komandur</b> Executive Director &amp; CFO +91 80 6784 0747</p> <p><b>Investor Relations:</b> <b>Sandeep Baid:</b> +91 80 6784 0791 <a href="mailto:sandeep.baid@strides.com">sandeep.baid@strides.com</a></p> <p><b>Strides Pharma Science Limited</b> CIN: L24230MH1990PLC057062</p>	<p><b>Corporate Communication</b> <b>Pallavi Panchmatia:</b> +91 80 6784 0193 <a href="mailto:pallavi.panchmatia@strides.com">pallavi.panchmatia@strides.com</a></p> <p><b>PR Consultancy</b> Fortuna PR K Srinivas Reddy: +91 90005 27213 <a href="mailto:srinivas@fortunapr.com">srinivas@fortunapr.com</a></p> <p>K Priya: +91 95354 25418 <a href="mailto:priya@fortunapr.com">priya@fortunapr.com</a></p>
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Regd. Office: 201, 'Devavrata', Sector - 17, Vashi, Navi Mumbai - 400 703 Corp. Office: Strides House, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru – 560076	
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