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Saad Shaikh

research@bobcaps.in



RPG LIFE SCIENCES

Pharmaceuticals

Investor day takeaways: Foundation in place; now targeting scale

- FY23 a milestone year with revenue/EBITDA of Rs 5bn/1bn; Naprosyn brand crossed Rs 500mn
- Earnings logged a 38% CAGR in the last 5Y (8% for revenue) primarily from improved operational efficiencies
- Management now targeting scale from organic as well as inorganic opportunities, including M&A in chronic business

Key takeaways from RPGL's (Not Rated) recent investor day:

Strong earnings growth: RPGL's FY23 revenue/EBITDA grew 17%/19% with a 20% EBITDA margin, translating to earnings growth of 31%. Domestic formulations contributed 78% to incremental revenue growth amid sustained prescription generation, portfolio augmentation through launches and extensions, and plugging of sales leakages via better control over product returns and inventory.

Broad-based topline uptick: Domestic formulations (67% of revenue) grew 20%, outpacing the market substantially, supported by volume growth of 13%, price growth of 5% and new introduction-led growth of 2%. APIs (15% of revenue) grew 2%. International formulations (18% of revenue) did well, rising 18% on new products, customer addition, market expansion and the return of political stability in some regions.

Largest brand Naprosyn crosses Rs 500mn in turnover: Lifecycle management helped largest brand Naprosyn (nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug) reach Rs 620mn in FY23. Chronic and specialty therapies remain focus areas for RPGL with a raft of product launches in recent years. The company is a leader in immunosuppressants which contribute ~35% of its turnover (including domestic, international and API sales). RPGL was one of the first companies to launch Adalimumab in India and holds 10% market share.

Capex: The company has spent close to Rs 1bn on plant modernisation as well as capacity enhancements for API as well as formulation plants over the last three years. This would result in capacity improvement to the tune of 40-50% in APIs and 15-20% in the formulation plants.

Fundamentals in place; now looking at scale: To continue on its growth path, the company intends to focus on (1) building the domestic formulations business via the five identified pillars, (2) building global business through new products, markets and customers, (3) modernising and expanding formulation and API plants, (4) identifying the R&D pipeline in niche areas, and (5) new opportunities via M&A.

 Ticker/Price
 RPGL IN/Rs 918

 Market cap
 US\$ 184mn

 Free float
 26%

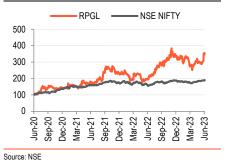
 3M ADV
 US\$ 0.43mn

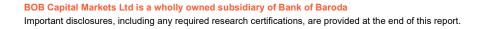
 52wk high/low
 Rs 1,013/Rs 498

 Promoter/FPI/DII
 73%/0%/0%

 Source: NSE | Price as of 16 Jun 2023

Stock performance







Investor day takeaways

- Domestic growth outlook: RPGL's management expects growth in its domestic formulations business (67% of FY23 sales) to be helmed by the specialty and chronic segments, where the company has increased customer coverage through product launches. The company is now able to cover 85-90% of target customers. For general practitioners as well, it has increased coverage by ~30%.
- Five pillars for domestic growth: RPGL continues to target above-industry growth by (1) rejuvenating the product portfolio via chronic and specialty launches, (2) building strategic brand assets through lifecycle management by introducing line extensions, (3) deepening customer coverage in targeted therapies via field-force scope expansion and digital deployment, (4) raising salesforce efficacy by building competencies and productivity, and (5) improving profitability through opex control and efficient manufacturing.
- International formulations: The breakup of branded generic to unbranded generic sales in international markets is 35% and 65% respectively, with branded generics guided to go up. Management has identified three steps to growth in the global formulations business (18% of FY23 sales): (1) build-up of the immunosuppressant portfolio by leveraging its leadership in the domestic market, (2) focus on products with a competitive advantage such as Sodium Valproate PR (complex generic product), and (3) expansion of footprint in emerging markets such as Myanmar, Vietnam, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Egypt and Sudan.
- API: RPGL is looking to target small volume and low-competition active pharma ingredients (API) by leveraging existing infrastructure and enhancing forward integration.
- Naprosyn: After reaching sales of Rs 620mn in FY23, management's next focus is to scale the Naprosyn brand to Rs 1bn. Thereafter, it plans to push for the product to be sold over the counter (as is the case in a few developed countries), which will lend a further fillip to sales.
- Price hikes: The company has taken price hikes wherever necessary except for the oncology portfolio, with effective hikes in the range of 5-6.5% during FY23.
- Field force and productivity: Management has highlighted that it is not looking to expand the field force but would focus on increasing productivity as well as scope of work for marketing representatives (MR). Productivity in terms of revenue per MR is now at Rs 550,000+ per year. For specialty business, this rises to Rs 1.3mn-1.4mn.
- USFDA approval: Investment in capacities is aimed at garnering regulatory approvals from PICS as well as the EU. The company intends to seek USFDA approval only once it has sufficient ANDAs (abbreviated new drug applications) lined up.
- **M&A:** With a good cash surplus (~Rs 1bn), RPGL is evaluating proposals to deploy the same on M&A, preferably in chronic areas.



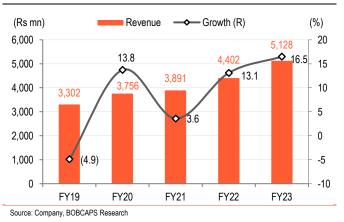
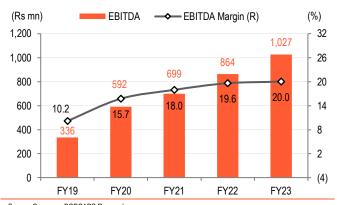


Fig 1 – Revenue growth of 8.1% over last 5Y

Fig 3 – EBITDA margin expanded 10ppt over FY19-FY23



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 5 – Consistent improvement in operating cash

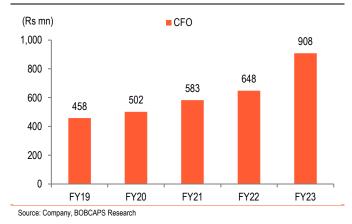


Fig 2 – Domestic formulations dominate revenue mix

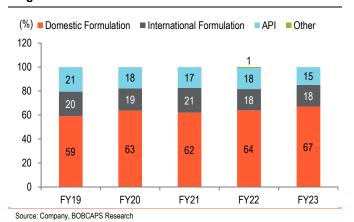
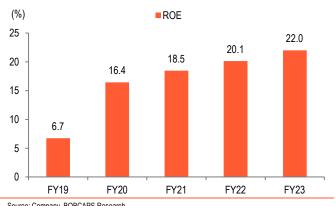
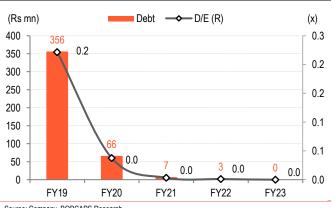


Fig 4 – ROE on an uptrend



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 6 – Balance sheet has improved with debt retirement



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



Fig 7 – Consistent improvement in productivity

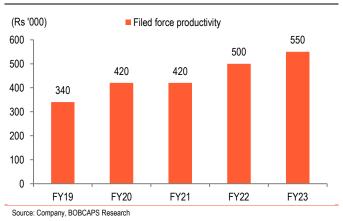
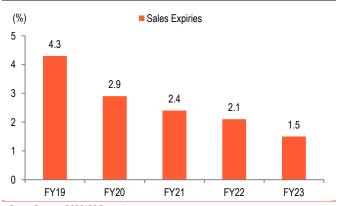


Fig 8 – Sales expiries now in line with industry



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



About the company

Part of RPG Enterprises, RPG Life Sciences (RPGL) is an integrated pharmaceutical company operating in domestic and international markets in the branded formulation, global generic and synthetic API space. The company draws 67% of revenue from domestic formulations, 18% from international formulations and 18% from APIs. It operates three manufacturing facilities with 1,200+ employees and caters to 50+ markets worldwide.

RPGL's key therapy areas are nephrology, rheumatology, oncology, orthopaedics, gastroenterology, cardiology, diabetology, and neuropsychiatry. It is a leader in the immunosuppressant space with brands such as Azoran (Azathioprine), Mofetyl (Mycophenolate Mofetil), Arpimune ME (Cyclosporine) and Imunotac (Tacrolimus).

In the domestic market, the company is increasingly focusing on the specialty and chronic segments. In the specialty business, its portfolio consists of products such as Trastuzumab (HerMab), Adalimumab (Adlumab), Bevacizumab (Ivzumab), Rituzimab (Zestmab) and Tofacitinib (T-Jaki). The chronic portfolio includes Vildagliptin (NuGliptin) and Teneligliptin (GliptiNext), Dapagliflozin (DPO), and Azelinidipine (Azilta).

A significant portion of RPGL's domestic revenue is contributed by six textbook brands: Azoran (Azathioprine), Aldactone (Spironolactone), Lomotil (Diphenoxylate HCI), Naprosyn (Naproxen), Serenace (Haloperidol) and Norpace (Disopyramide Phosphate).

In the international formulations space, its generic portfolio includes Azathioprine, Sodium Valproate PR and Nicorandil while the branded generic portfolio has products such as Siloxogene, Azoran, Mofetyl, Arpimune and Dipsope. RPGL's international business primarily caters to the emerging markets of Myanmar, Vietnam, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Egypt and Sudan. Key products in the API portfolio include Quinfamide, Azathioprine, Haloperidol, Risperidone, Propantheline Bromide, Nicorandil, Pantoprazole and Diphenoxylate.

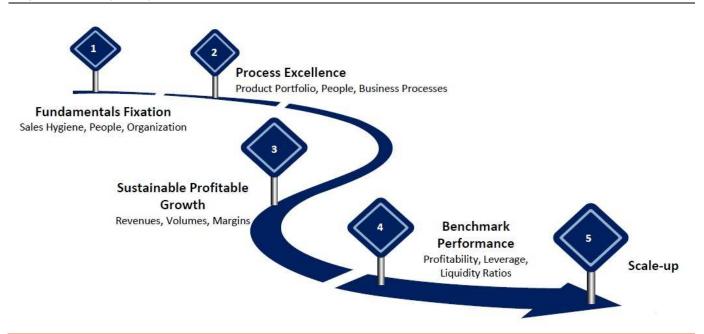


Fig 9 – Key therapies and products

Source: Company presentation

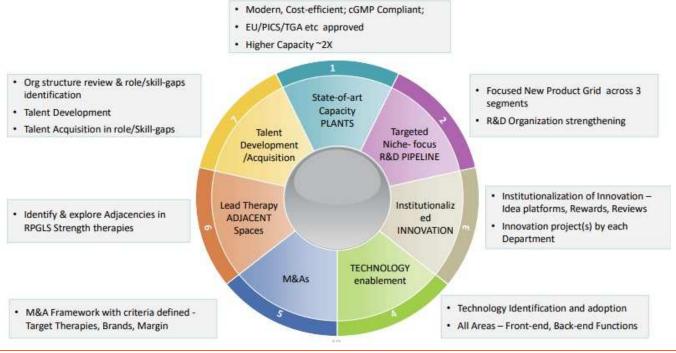


Fig 10 – RPGL's journey



Source: Company presentation

Fig 11 – Journey ahead – 7 pillars identified



Source: Company presentation

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HOLD - Expected return from -6% to +15%

SELL – Expected return <-6%

Note: Recommendation structure changed with effect from 21 June 2021

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