

26 October 2024



**ERIS LIFESCIENCES** 

Pharmaceuticals

# Fully vertically integrated biologics segment; maintain BUY

- Q2 revenue/PAT above our estimates due to better traction in both base and acquired businesses
- EBITDA margin improvement led by fixed-cost synergies. FY25 EBITDA margin guidance of 36% for domestic business (90% of sales) retained
- We maintain our EPS estimates for FY25/FY26/FY27 and roll over valuations to Sep'26, valuing ERIS at 33x. Maintain BUY

**Robust revenue growth:** ERIS's revenue grew strongly at 47% YoY to Rs 7.4bn in Q2FY25, supported by traction in its base and acquired businesses. The newly-acquired business of Swiss Parenterals contributed Rs 820mn to revenue in Q2FY25. It expects the domestic branded formulations business to clock organic growth of Rs 2.6bn in FY25 from Rs 1bn in H1FY25. With its diversification strategy, ERIS's concentration in the top three therapies has reduced to 54% from 80%.

**Synergies from acquisition drove margins:** EBITDA for the quarter grew 46% YoY to Rs 2.6bn, 3% above Bloomberg expectations. This was due to the increase in production capacity and utilisation rate which drove base business gross margin to 86% and 79% for the Derma business. EBITDA margin was 35.7% on account of fixed-cost synergies from acquired businesses. We expect ERIS to maintain EBITDA margin of 34-35% in FY25 driven by (1) higher productivity, (2) fixed-cost synergies and (3) several new launches in H2 mostly First to File (FtF).

**Participated in GLP1 opportunity:** ERIS has acquired a 30% stake in Levim Lifetech for developed and commercialised Liraglutide, Streptokinase and Pegaspargase from basic stages. During the quarter, ERIS launched ERLY whose API would be manufactured in the Levim facility. With the success of Liraglutide, we believe the company can scale up to tap the opportunity of GLP1 products.

**Fully-integrated biologics:** ERIS is now fully vertically-integrated for its biologics presence, where it will conduct initial stage activities like product development and commercial manufacturing through Levim, fill finish through Chemman Labs and market products through Biocon's acquired portfolio of insulin, oncology and critical care business. This vertical integration is likely to lead to incremental profitability.

**Valuation outlook:** We maintain our BUY rating and value the stock at a P/E of 33x on Sep'26, ~54% premium to its five-year mean, which yields a TP of Rs 1,648. We expect such a premium valuation to sustain due to: (1) increased medical representative productivity, (2) higher traction in value-added products, and (3) synergies from scaling up acquired businesses.

### Key changes

Foram Parekh

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	Target	Rating				
	<►	<►				
Ticke	er/Price	ERIS IN/Rs 1,292				
Mark	et cap	US\$ 2.1bn				
Free float		29%				
3M ADV		US\$ 4.7mn				
52wk high/low		Rs 1,522/Rs 804				
Prom	noter/FPI/DII	55%/13%/16%				

Source: NSE | Price as of 25 Oct 2024

### Key financials

Y/E 31 Mar	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E				
Total revenue (Rs mn)	20,092	29,741	34,372				
EBITDA (Rs mn)	6,748	10,214	11,924				
Adj. net profit (Rs mn)	3,920	4,194	5,922				
Adj. EPS (Rs)	28.9	30.9	43.6				
Consensus EPS (Rs)	28.9	32.9	42.3				
Adj. ROAE (%)	15.7	14.3	18.3				
Adj. P/E (x) 44.8 41.8 29.6							
EV/EBITDA (x)	26.6	18.3	16.0				
Adj. EPS growth (%) 2.6 7.0 41.2							
Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOB	CAPS Research						

Stock performance



Source: NSE





# **Conference call highlights**

**Diabetes portfolio:** ERIS's diabetes segment prior to acquiring Biocon's portfolio was Rs 6bn, which has scaled up to Rs 10bn post-acquisition. The productivity of this segment has increased from Rs 550k per month to Rs 700k.

**Base portfolio:** ERIS's base business is expected to grow by 9-10%, gross margin increased 359bps, while EBITDA margin increased 374bps. The return on capital in this business is more than 50%. The base business is on track to deliver FY25 sales of Rs 26bn and EBITDA margin of 36%.

Acquired portfolios: The company has completed the integration of Biocon's business and fixed-cost synergies led to an increase in margins in the branded formulation space. Pre-acquisition, the R&D team used to handle 80-90 projects and now its bandwidth has doubled to about 170 projects.

**New product launches:** ERIS has many new products launches, many of which are being launched in the second half of FY25 and which would enjoy FtF status. Currently, one FDC (fixed dose combination) in cardiovascular therapy was approved by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI), while four FDC were approved in diabetes therapy.

**Insulin:** The Insulin business has derived significant tailwind from the acquired portfolio of Biocon through ERIS's credibility. Management expects the insulin segment to grow by 18-20% till FY27.

**Ahmedabad facility:** ERIS increased production at its Ahmedabad facility to 220mn units in 2QFY25 from 140mn in 4QFY24 with a capacity utilisation of 65% in 4QFY25 from 42% in 4QFY24. This resulted in the base portfolio gross margin increasing from 83% in 4QFY24 to 86% in 2QFY25.

**Derma in-house production:** ERIS's Derma in-house production as a percentage of total production scaled up from 11% in 1QFY25 to 30% in 2QFY25. This resulted in Derma's gross margin increasing from 76% in 4QFY24 to 79% in 2QFY25.

**Debt:** Net debt reduced from Rs 30bn in FY24 to Rs 25bn in Q2FY25 as against guidance of Rs 26bn in FY25. Management aims to bring this down to Rs 20bn by the end of FY26.

**Capex:** Capex is likely to come down from Rs 2.2bn in FY25 to Rs 0.7bn in FY26. Capex of Rs 1bn-1.2bn is to be utilised primarily for insulin, MAB and Hormones.

**GLP1 opportunity:** ERIS has acquired a 30% stake in Levim. Through Levim, ERIS has access to product development and commercialisation in three products, Liraglutide, Streptokinase and Pegaspargase. The Liraglutide brand is to be driven by API manufactured at the Levim facility. ERIS's successful execution of Liraglutide will likely build confidence for future GLP play.



# Fig 1 – Financial highlights

(Rs mn)	Q2FY25	Q2FY24	YoY (%)	Q1FY25	QoQ (%)	FY24	FY23	YoY (%)
Net Sales	7,412	5,053	46.7	7,197	3.0	20,091	16,852	19.2
EBITDA	2,645	1,811	46.0	2,500	5.8	6,748	5,368	25.7
Depreciation	805	421	91	759	6	1,826	1,171	56.0
EBIT	1,840	1,391	32.3	1,741	5.7	4,922	4,197	17.3
Interest	595	163	265	604	(1)	848	262	224.1
Other Income	46	35	31	16	177	238	112	113.5
PBT	1,291	1,262	2.3	1,153	12.0	4,312	4,047	6.6
Less: Taxation	328	39	735	259	26	342	305	12.1
Minority Interest/Associate	48	(11)	(526)	62	(24)	51	(80)	(163.4)
Recurring PAT	916	1,234	(25.8)	832	10.1	3,920	3,822	2.6
Exceptional items	0	0		0		0	0	
Reported PAT	916	1,234	(25.8)	832	10.1	3,920	3,822	2.6
Key Ratios (%)			(bps)		(bps)			(bps)
Gross Margin	74.9	81.3	(641)	74.9	(4)	81.1	79.1	199
EBITDA Margin	35.7	35.8	(16)	34.7	95	33.6	31.9	174
Tax / PBT	25.4	3.1	2227	22.5	291	7.9	7.5	39
NPM	12.4	24.4	(1207)	11.6	80	19.5	22.7	(317)
EPS (Rs)	6.7	9.1	(25.8)	6.1	10.1	28.9	28.2	2.6

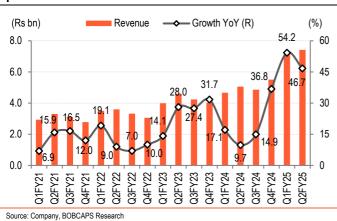
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

# Fig 2 – Acquisition timeline

Year	Seller	Amount Paid (Rs mn)	Sales of target company/brands at the time of acquisition (Rs mn)	EV/Sales
FY17	Aprica (Amay Pharma)	329	398	0.8
FY18	Strides Pharma	5,000	2,000	2.5
FY18	UTH	129	70	1.8
FY18	Kindex	774	515	1.5
FY21	Zomelis	960	640	1.5
FY22	Oaknet	6,500	1,950	3.3
FY23	Glenmark Pharma	3,400	850	4.0
FY23	Dr.Reddy's	2,750	621	4.4
FY24	Biocon Biologics	3,660	1,000	3.7
FY24	Swiss Parentals	3,660	1,000	3.7
FY24	Biocon Biologics	12,420	3,600	3.5
	Total Consideration paid	39,582	12,644	3.1
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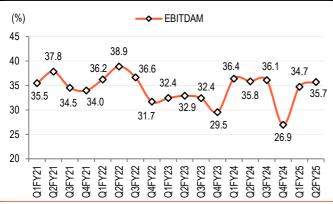
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research





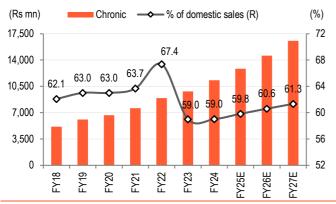
### Fig 3 – Sales increased due to integration of Biocon's portfolio

### Fig 5 - Increase in capacity utilisation resulted in higher margins



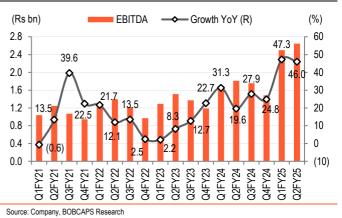
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

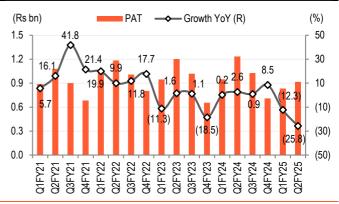
## Fig 7 – Chronic portfolio share expected to increase due to higher traction in diabetes therapy



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

# Fig 4 – Healthy product mix and better capacity utilisation resulted in higher EBITDA

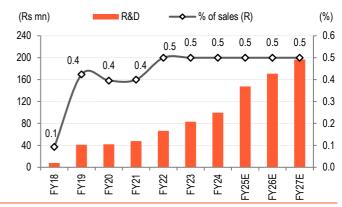




# Fig 6 – Healthy operations resulted in strong bottomline

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

# Fig 8 – Higher inorganic activity leads to minimal R&D spent as a % to sales



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



# Valuation methodology

ERIS has transformed its earlier business focus from Anti Diabetes to Super Specialty Therapies like oncology, nephrology and auto immune by acquiring Biocon's portfolio. ERIS has acquired many assets over the past two years, and expects them to scale up further. It has largely acquired Chronic portfolios, which when scaled up are expected to increase its chronic contributions.

We remain positive on ERIS given sustained traction in base business and the acquired portfolios of Biocon. Hence, we expect the company's earnings to grow at a CAGR of 35% over FY25E-27E. We maintain a BUY rating and value the stock at a P/E of 33x on Sep'26, ~54% premium to its five-year mean, which yields a TP of Rs 1,648 to reflect visible gross margin improvement, healthy insulin sales and a fully vertically-integrated biologics facility.

(Rs mn)	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Sales	20,092	29,741	34,372	39,580
EBITDA	6,748	10,214	11,924	14,143
PAT	3,920	4,194	5,922	7,636
EPS	28.9	30.9	43.6	56.2
EBITDA Margin (%)	33.59	34.34	34.69	35.73
PAT Margin (%)	19.51	14.10	17.23	19.29

### Fig 9 – Key assumptions

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

# **Key risks**

Key downside risks to our estimates are:

- a delay in paring debt would impact earnings,
- delays in launching/ramping up new products, and
- weaker supply security of products not manufactured in-house.



# Financials

Income Statement					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Total revenue	16,851	20,092	29,741	34,372	39,580
EBITDA	5,367	6,748	10,214	11,924	14,143
Depreciation	1,171	1,826	2,850	3,093	3,373
EBIT	4,197	4,922	7,364	8,831	10,770
Net interest inc./(exp.)	(262)	(848)	(2,408)	(2,080)	(1,780)
Other inc./(exp.)	112	238	420	842	800
Exceptional items	0	0	0	0	0
EBT	4,046	4,313	5,376	7,593	9,790
Income taxes	305	342	1,183	1,670	2,154
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
Min. int./Inc. from assoc.	(80)	51	0	0	0
Reported net profit	3,822	3,920	4,194	5,922	7,636
Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted net profit	3,822	3,920	4,194	5,922	7,636

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Accounts payables	1,248	2,683	4,854	7,488	10,786
Other current liabilities	966	1,196	1,477	1,708	1,969
Provisions	1,136	1,148	1,702	1,969	2,269
Debt funds	8,767	27,813	44,603	38,603	32,603
Other liabilities	0	0	0	0	0
Equity capital	136	136	136	136	136
Reserves & surplus	21,908	34,443	36,733	40,435	45,534
Shareholders' fund	22,044	34,579	36,869	40,571	45,670
Total liab. and equities	34,160	67,419	89,505	90,339	93,296
Cash and cash eq.	585	14,006	28,069	26,674	27,100
Accounts receivables	2,927	4,220	7,039	9,079	11,541
Inventories	1,314	1,890	2,832	3,276	3,775
Other current assets	3,068	3,675	5,345	6,183	7,126
Investments	367	155	155	155	155
Net fixed assets	3,560	5,046	3,196	2,103	730
CWIP	217	197	197	197	197
Intangible assets	22,121	38,229	42,672	42,672	42,672
Deferred tax assets, net	0	0	0	0	0
Other assets	0	0	0	0	0
Total assets	34,160	67,419	89,505	90,339	93,296

### Cash Flows

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Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Cash flow from operations	4,102	5,797	7,027	10,905	12,744
Capital expenditures	(9,723)	(8,643)	(1,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)
Change in investments	4,837	212	0	0	0
Other investing cash flows	0	0	0	0	0
Cash flow from investing	(4,886)	(8,431)	(1,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)
Equities issued/Others	0	0	0	0	0
Debt raised/repaid	7,923	19,046	16,790	(6,000)	(6,000)
Interest expenses	(262)	(848)	(2,408)	(2,080)	(1,780)
Dividends paid	(1,269)	(1,586)	(1,903)	(2,221)	(2,538)
Other financing cash flows	(5,547)	(556)	(4,443)	0	0
Cash flow from financing	846	16,056	8,036	(10,301)	(10,318)
Chg in cash & cash eq.	62	13,421	14,063	(1,395)	426
Closing cash & cash eq.	585	14,006	28,069	26,674	27,100

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Reported EPS	28.1	28.9	30.9	43.6	56.2
Adjusted EPS	28.1	28.9	30.9	43.6	56.2
Dividend per share	8.0	10.0	12.0	14.0	16.0
Book value per share	160.5	207.8	224.7	252.0	289.5
Valuations Ratios					
Y/E 31 Mar (x)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
EV/Sales	10.4	8.9	6.3	5.6	4.8
EV/EBITDA	32.6	26.6	18.3	16.0	13.4
Adjusted P/E	45.9	44.8	41.8	29.6	23.0
P/BV	8.0	6.2	5.7	5.1	4.5
DuPont Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar (%)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Tax burden (Net profit/PBT)	94.4	90.9	78.0	78.0	78.0
Interest burden (PBT/EBIT)	96.4	87.6	73.0	86.0	90.9
EBIT margin (EBIT/Revenue)	24.9	24.5	24.8	25.7	27.2
Asset turnover (Rev./Avg TA)	17.3	10.8	10.3	10.7	12.6
Leverage (Avg TA/Avg Equity)	1.3	1.9	2.4	2.5	2.1
Adjusted ROAE	19.6	15.7	14.3	18.3	20.8
Ratio Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
YoY growth (%)					
Revenue	25.1	19.2	48.0	15.6	15.2
EBITDA	10.7	25.7	51.4	16.7	18.6
Adjusted EPS	(5.9)	2.6	7.0	41.2	28.9
Profitability & Return ratios (%)	()				
EBITDA margin	31.9	33.6	34.3	34.7	35.7
EBIT margin	24.9	24.5	24.8	25.7	27.2
Adjusted profit margin	22.7	19.5	14.1	17.2	19.3
Adjusted ROAE	19.6	15.7	14.3	18.3	20.8
ROCE	17.7	11.1	10.8	12.0	14.7
Working capital days (days)					
Receivables	64	77	87	97	107
Inventory	29	35	35	35	35
Payables	27	49	60	80	100
,					
Ratios (x)					
Ratios (x) Gross asset turnover	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.5	1.6
	1.0 2.4	1.0 4.7	1.4 5.4	1.5 4.0	1.6 3.3
Gross asset turnover					

0.5

0.3

0.1

Adjusted debt/equity 0.4 0.5 Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research | Note: TA = Total Assets



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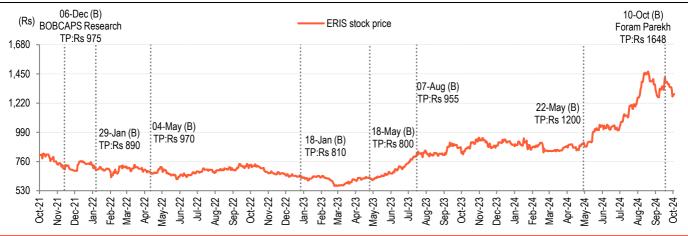
HOLD – Expected return from -6% to +15%

SELL - Expected return <-6%

Note: Recommendation structure changed with effect from 21 June 2021

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### Ratings and Target Price (3-year history): ERIS LIFESCIENCES (ERIS IN)



B - Buy, H - Hold, S - Sell, A - Add, R - Reduce

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