

13 May 2022 | Interviews

## How Ex-Janssen India Chief Is Steering Bharat Serums' Ambitions In Women's Health

by Anju Ghangurde

Sanjiv Navangul, managing director and CEO, Bharat Serums and Vaccines, in a wide-ranging interview with Scrip, outlines the firm's game plan to establish itself as a "force to reckon with" in women's health - it goes beyond drugs and encompasses devices and potentially digital therapeutics as well. The former Janssen India chief also weighs in on the worrying industry-wide input cost escalation scenario and supply chain turbulence.

It's been an action-packed few years for the Indian biopharmaceutical firm, *Bharat Serums And Vaccines Limited* (BSV).

While 2019 saw the US-based private equity investor Advent International snap up a majority holding in BSV, a local pioneer in the development of blood components and therapeutic antibody products for infectious and non-infectious diseases, the firm kicked off 2022 with almost back-to-back acquisitions setting out its ambitions in the women's heath segment.

Steering BSV's charge is former <u>Janssen India</u> chief Sanjiv Navangul, who came onboard post the Advent transaction. (Also see "<u>Ex-Janssen India Chief To Lead PE-Controlled Bharat Serums</u>" - Scrip, 17 Feb, 2020.) An industry veteran, known for deploying "responsible pricing" approaches for Januvia (sitagliptin) and Invokana (canagliflozin) in his previous stints at <u>MSD</u> and Janssen respectively, Navangul tells *Scrip* how things look from the other side, outside of big pharma, and also why disruptions in the global supply chain have to perhaps be considered as "normal and

## SCRIP CITELINE COMMERCIAL



Source: BSV

not abnormal" hereon. (Also see "Supply Chain Crunch Meets Olympics Shutdown: China, India Drug Makers Embrace For Perfect Storm" - Scrip, 3 Dec, 2021.)

The executive also outlines how he's shaping BSV's play in women's health in a strategy that goes beyond drugs to encompass devices and potentially digital therapeutics as well.

Is the game plan to eventually spin out women's health, along the lines of what Merck & Co., Inc. did for Organon & Co. or is Navangul gearing BSV for a public listing? Find out more on this topic and others in the podcast.

Click here to explore this interactive content online



**Podcast Time Stamps** 

00:09 Introduction

02:13 Shift from Janssen to BSV

06:16 Responsible Pricing from a patient's point of view

08:38 Cost escalations are happening across the board

13:42 Plans to be the most relevant healthcare firm in women's health

19:15 Ecosystem to help women get better healthcare

20:57 Creating an ecosystem of startups

21:36 BabyBeat device

23:33: In-licensing opportunities

26:02: Digital therapeutics



29:18 New manufacturing/R&D sites

33:32 Progress on ulinastatin for COVID-19

37:20: BSV five years down the line

This and all our other podcasts are available on the Informa Pharma Intelligence channel on *Apple Podcasts*, *Google Podcasts*, *SoundCloud*, *TuneIn* and *Spotify Podcasts*, and via smart speakers if one of these platforms has been set up as your default podcast provider.

## **Related Stories:**

(Also see "Bharat Serums Takes Shot At Ulinastatin For COVID-19 Respiratory Distress" - Scrip, 9 Jun, 2020.)

(Also see "Advent Gains High-Potential ART Business Through Bharat Buy" - Scrip, 21 Nov, 2019.)

(Also see "*USP Exec On Onshoring, Impact Of War-Fueled Metals Turbulence On Pharma*" - Scrip, 28 Apr, 2022.)

(Also see "*The Golden Winged Warbler And Creating Pharma Supply Chain Immunity*" - Pink Sheet, 26 Oct, 2020.)

(Also see "*Turbulence Ahead For Indian Firms Caught In Russia-Ukraine Conflict*" - Scrip, 3 Mar, 2022.)

(Also see "How Organon Expects To Steer Its Women's Health Engine In India" - Scrip, 7 Apr, 2022.)

(Also see "<u>Organon APAC Head On Why World Needs A Company Dedicated To Women's Health</u>" - Scrip, 21 Jun, 2021.)