

MSN to make generic of blockbuster heart drug

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HYDERABAD-BASED MSN Laboratories has become the first company in India to receive permission to manufacture Prasugrel, the first generic in the world for Efient.

Efient is a blood thinner, which has been launched by Daiichi Sankyo in association with Eli Lilly. The drug is expected to be a blockbuster. The former sees sales of more than €500 million through annual sales of the drug in Europe.

"Prasugrel is the first generic in the world for Efient and we are proud to be the first Indian company to get approval to manufacture it," MSN Reddy, chair-



man and managing director, MSN Labs, said.

Prasugrel is meant for patients who have undergone an angioplasty procedure to open up a blocked heart. It is available in 5 mg and 10 mg strength tablets.

New medicine

■ Efient, the drug, has been launched by Daiichi Sankyo in association with Eli Lilly

■ The drug is for patients who have undergone an angioplasty procedure to open up a blocked heart

■ Efient was launched in the US and in Britain last year and is available in 5 mg and 10 mg tablets

Efient was launched in the US and in Britain last year. It is an alternative medication to Sanofi-Aventis and Bristol-Myers Squibb's drug Plavix, another drug for heart-attack patients.