



# **FRX and IRWD**

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## First Phase III IBS-C Data Bodes Well for Linaclotide's Approvability, Although Commercial Challenges Keep Us Cautious on Drug's Potential

- Impressive data in IBS-C confirms Street's optimism. We expect FRX and IRWD shares to react positively to the release of positive data from their first Phase III study for linaclotide in irritable bowel syndrome with constipation (IBS-C). While the results are in-line with most investors' expectations, today's data reinforces the clinical profile for the product and suggests that the second IBS-C study may be positive as well. Given the strength of today's data, we raise our probability of success for the product coming to the market from 75% to 85%. Our IRWD target price is based on a probability-adjusted NPV and increases from \$11 to \$12 while our FRX target price is a 70/30 blend of DCF and relative valuation and increases from \$28 to \$29. Our relative conservatism on the product remains unchanged, due to the challenges the constipation market brings, and we maintain our Neutral rating on both names.
- Expect positive results from remaining linaclotide studies. The overall response rates and the persistence of the treatment effect on both abdominal pain and complete spontaneous bowel movements (CSBMs) in this 12-week study are encouraging (Exhibit 1 Exhibit 4), as we await the top-line data in 4Q 2010 from study MCP-103-302, which had a 26-week treatment period. The minimal systemic absorption of the drug also leaves us confident in the data that will emerge from the ongoing long-term safety studies with the drug. All of these studies will need to come back positive before linaclotide can be approved for use in chronic constipation (CC) or IBS-C but data available to date suggests that the drug will be able to meet these upcoming hurdles.
- Compliance issues and over-the-counter (OTC) competitors make success in constipation markets a challenge. Despite the strength of the data for linaclotide in both CC and IBS-C, we remain relatively guarded on the drug's commercial potential given our previous due diligence into this market. Our 100-physician survey revealed how dominant OTC medications are in this market and suggested that, for patients who do receive prescription medications, 80% stop therapy for reasons other than symptom resolution and about half of them complete less than 60% of the prescription that they are given (Exhibit 5 Exhibit 8). The size of the constipation markets and the overall clinical profile of linaclotide, however, still leaves us expecting US sales to surpass \$1 Bn by 2020.

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Exhibit 1: Top-Line Efficacy Data from Phase III LIN-MD-31 Study (US Endpoints)

CAMBIL 1. 10p-Line Efficacy Data from Friase in Lin-MD-31 Study (03 Effut	Responde			
Primary Endpoints	266 mcg	Placebo	P-value	
Composite responder 1 (abdominal pain 30, CSBM 3+1, 9/12)	12	5	=0.0004	
CSBM responder 1 (CSBM 3+1, 9/12)	20	6	< 0.0001	
Abdominal pain responder 1 (abdominal pain 30, 9/12)	34	27	=0.0262	
Composite responder 2 (abdominal pain 30, CSBM +1, 6/12)	34	21	<0.0001	
Secondary Endpoints				
CSBM+1 responder 2 (CSBM +1, 6/12)	49	30	< 0.0001	
Abdominal pain responder 2 (abdominal pain 30, 6/12)	50	37	=0.0003	
Abdominal pain (12-week)	Y	05	<0.0001	
Percent of abdominal pain-free days (12-week)	Y	=0.0014		
- Abdominal discomfort (12-week)	Y	<0.0001		
- Bloating (12-week)	Y	< 0.0001		
CSBM frequency rate (12-week)	Y	<0.0001		
SBM frequency rate (12-week)	Y	< 0.0001		
Stool consistency (12-week)	Y	< 0.0001		
Severity of straining (12-week)	Y	Yes		

Source: Company data.

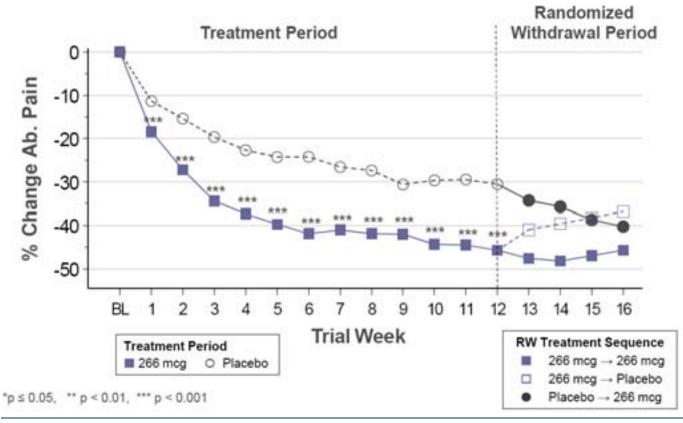
Exhibit 2: Top-Line Efficacy Data from Phase III LIN-MD-31 Study (EU Endpoints)

	Responde	Nominal		
Co-Primary Endpoints	266 mcg	Placebo	p-value	
12-week abdominal pain / abdominal discomfort responder	55	42	=0.0002	
•12-week IBS degree of relief responder	37	18	<0.0001	
Secondary Endpoints				
· Bloating (12-week)	Ye	es	<0.0001	
· CSBM frequency rate (12-week)	Ye	<0.0001		
·Stool consistency (12-week)	Ye	es	<0.0001	
· Severity of straining (12-week)	Ye	es	< 0.0001	

Source: Company data.



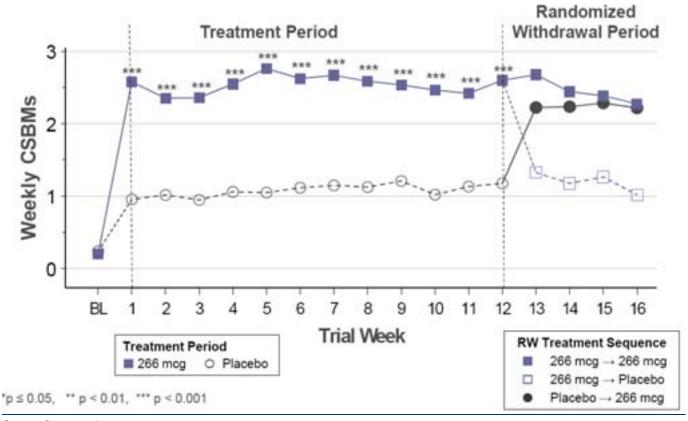
Exhibit 3: Abdominal Pain Reduction through 16 Weeks in Phase III LIN-MD-31 Study



Source: Company data.

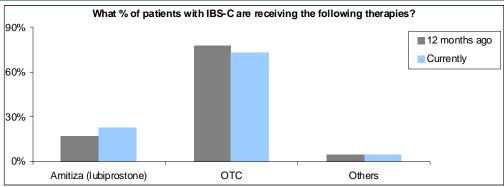


Exhibit 4: Improvement in CSBMs through 16 Weeks in Phase III LIN-MD-31 Study



Source: Company data.

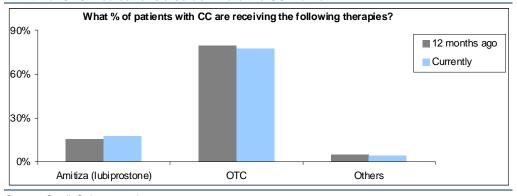
Exhibit 5: CS Survey results highlights dominance of OTC meds in IBS-C market



Source: Credit Suisse proprietary survey.

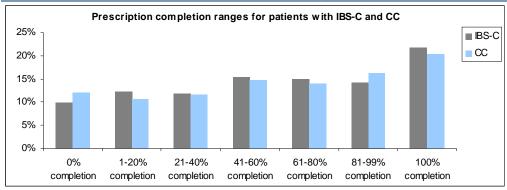


Exhibit 6: OTC medications also dominate the CC market



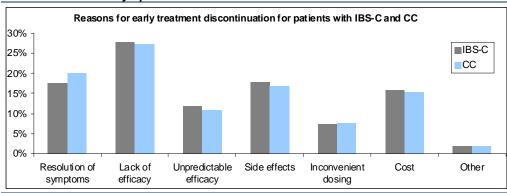
Source: Credit Suisse proprietary survey.

Exhibit 7: Survey Respondents Believe that About Half of Their Patients with IBS-C and CC Complete Less than 60% of the Prescription That They Are Given for Their Illness



Source: Credit Suisse proprietary survey.

Exhibit 8: 80% of Patients Stop Therapy for IBS-C and CC for Reasons other Than **Resolution of Their Symptoms** 



Source: Credit Suisse proprietary survey.

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	Price	Price	Ra	ting*	Target F	Price	Year	EPS	EPS F	Y1E	EPS F	Y2E	EPS F	Y3E
Company	ссу	10 Sep 10	Prev.	Cur.	Prev.	Cur.	End	Ссу	Prev.	Cur.	Prev.	Cur.	Prev.	Cur.
Forest Laboratories Inc. (FRX)	US\$	29.86	_	N	28.00	29.00	Mar 10	US\$	_	3.73	_	4.11	1.33	1.30
Ironwood Pharmaceuticals (IRWD)	US\$	9.74	_	<b>N</b> [V]	11.00	12.00	Dec 09	US\$	_	(0.66)	_	(0.56)	_	(0.04)

<sup>\*</sup>O – Outperform, N – Neutral, U – Underperform, R – Restricted Source: Company data, Credit Suisse estimates.

#### Companies Mentioned (Price as of 13 Sep 10)

Forest Laboratories Inc. (FRX, \$29.86, NEUTRAL, TP \$29.00) Ironwood Pharmaceuticals (IRWD, \$9.74, NEUTRAL [V], TP \$12.00)

### **Disclosure Appendix**

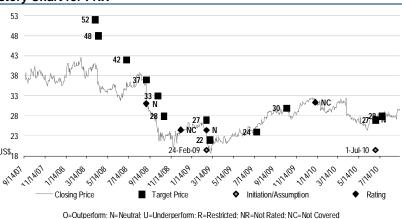
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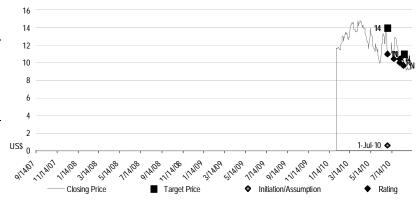
3-Year Price, Target Price and Rating Change History Chart for FRX

FRX	Closing	Target		
	Price	Price		Initiation/
Date	(US\$)	(US\$)	Rating	Assumption
4/7/08	41.13	52		
4/16/08	36.52	48		
7/8/08	36.11	42		
9/3/08	31.08	37	N	
10/7/08	24.26	33		
10/24/08	21.86	28		
12/12/08	24.54		NC	
2/24/09	24.43	27	N	X
3/6/09	19.12	22		
7/20/09	25.4	24		
10/15/09	30.18	30		
1/7/10	31.37		NC	
7/1/10	27.17	27	N	X
7/20/10	28.1	28		



#### 3-Year Price, Target Price and Rating Change History Chart for IRWD

IRWD	Closing	Target		
	Price	Price		Initiation/
Date	(US\$)	(US\$)	Rating	Assumption
7/1/10	11	14	N	X
7/19/10	10.47		R	
8/5/10	10.45		N	
8/6/10	10		R	
8/17/10	9.7		N	
8/19/10	9.58	11		



O=Outperform; N=Neutral; U=Underperform; R=Restricted; NR=Not Rated; NC=Not Covered

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<sup>[</sup>V] = Stock considered volatile (see Disclosure Appendix).



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Price Target: (12 months) for (FRX)

Method: Our \$29 target price for Forest is based on a 70/30% blend of (DCF) valuation of \$31 and relative valuation of \$25. Our DCF uses a 11.0% WACC (weighted average cost of capital) and a terminal EBITDA multiple of 4.0x. For our P/E valuation, we place FRX at a 10% premium to its Speciality Pharma peers, giving it a multiple of 11.6x applied to its FY 2014 EPS estimate of \$2.07.

**Risks:** Risks to our \$29 target price for Forest include: (1) development pipeline risks, (2) unexpected declines in key products sales growth, and (3) earlier than expected generic entry for key products.

Price Target: (12 months) for (IRWD)

FRX and IRWD

**Method:** Our \$12 target price for IRWD is based on a probability weighted net present value (NPV) analysis. We have used a 15% WACC (weighted average cost of capital) for our analysis. Major sources of cash inflow for Ironwood include: (1) Future US linaclotide profit share income, (2) linaclotide ex-US royalty income, and (3) milestones-based revenues.

Risks: Risk to our \$12 target price include: (1) Regulatory risks related to linaclotide approval, (2) single product risk, (3) unexpected change in competitive landscape, and (4) the company's financing risk, due to the potential need to raise additional funds to fund spend related to linaclotide launch.

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