

Bristol-Myers completes diabetes business sale

NEW YORK

Drug developer Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. has received a \$2.7 billion payment from Anglo-Swedish counterpart AstraZeneca PLC as part of the sale of its global diabetes business, a deal that could eventually be worth more than \$4 billion.

The New York company said Monday it also will receive a \$600 million payment later this month due to the recent U.S. regulatory approval of Farxiga, a once-a-day tablet developed by both companies and designed to help diabetes patients eliminate excess sugar through their urine.

Bristol-Myers also is in line to receive another \$800 million in milestone payments and sales-based royalties through 2025.

The deal involves the rights to Bristol-Myers' global diabetes business that was part of a collaboration with AstraZeneca.

Bristol-Myers agreed to sell its share of the diabetes business to AstraZeneca as the U.S. pharmaceutical company undergoes a makeover from a producer of drugs for the masses to a creator of specialty drugs for complex disorders.

Shares of Bristol-Myers slipped 19 cents to \$49.78 in morning trading Monday. The stock had already dropped 6 percent so far this year, as of Friday's close.

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