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Life-enabling product like insulin should be made affordable: Shaw

Offers rh-Insulin at less than 10 U.S. cents/day in LMI nations

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU

Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, philanthropist and founder of Biocon, said she would enable universal access to high quality insulin by making available recombinant human Insulin (rh-Insulin) at less than 10 U.S. cents /day in low and middle-income countries (LMICs).

LMICs, which form most of the world, contribute to 80% of the global disease burden. "My conviction is that a life-enabling product like insulin cannot be priced out of the reach of those that need it on an everyday basis, whether in the United States or in Africa," said Ms. Mazumdar-Shaw.

Ms. Mazumdar-Shaw made the above personal commitment at a United Na-



Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw

tions General Assembly (UN-GA) meeting on innovation and universal health access, convened by UNAIDS Health Innovation Exchange, in the presence of the President of Ethiopia, the First Lady of Namibia, Health Ministers from Botswana and Malawi, and representatives from the private sector and deve-

lopment agencies.

Biocon's Recombinant Human insulin offer of less than 10 U.S. cents/day in LMICs is for vials sourced by the government directly from Biocon, assuming an insulin dosage of 40 IU per day. Currently, the blended median patient prices in LMICs are \$9 per 10ml vial, translating to 36 U.S. cents/day. The current U.S. list price in retail is over \$5/day.

Biocon Biologics' recombinant human insulin has been developed using scientific expertise, R&D and manufacturing facilities that have allowed it to bring multiple biosimilar medicines to the U.S. and Europe.

So far, the company had provided over 2 billion doses of human insulin worldwide.