

NEWSLETTER

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China Pharma Sector Sees Surge in Drug Approvals and Out-Licensing in H1

China's pharmaceutical sector reported 38 innovative drug approvals in the first half of 2026, with domestic developers accounting for over 80% of the total. Outbound licensing deals for Chinese innovative drugs reached approximately USD 110 billion, setting a historical record for the period. Data highlights a shift from pure manufacturing toward global R&D integration. **(China Daily)**

Twelfth National Drug Volume-Based Procurement Sees Record Originator Return

The twelfth round of China's national volume-based procurement finalized 521 winning products from 327 firms across 65 therapeutic categories. A record 10 original-brand reference drugs secured selection under the new "no-volume revival" mechanism designed to stabilize clinical use. Xinhua noted the reform moves away from lowest-price-only logic toward multi-source supply and patient continuity. **(Xinhua)**

National Healthcare Security Administration Unifies Lab Test Pricing Framework

The National Healthcare Security Administration released the 40th and final batch of medical service pricing guidelines covering laboratory diagnostics. The framework standardizes 662 main items, 114 surcharge items and seven extended items under one national coding system. Caixin reported the move directly supports cross-region test result mutual recognition and caps irrational diagnostic spending. **(Caixin)**

China Proposes Major Overhaul for Hazardous Chemical Licensing

China's Ministry of Emergency Management proposed draft revisions to hazardous chemical licensing rules, categorizing operations into six business models. The policy refines municipal and county approval authorities, sets a three-year license validity, and mandates digital supervision. To strengthen safety compliance, the proposal increases fines for illegal operations up to €67,200 (500,000 yuan). **(ChemNet Chemical Headlines)**

Shandong Approves Expansion Area for Dongying Port Chemical Park

The Shandong provincial government officially approved a 6-square-kilometer expansion area for the Dongying Port Chemical Industry Park. Designed to advance green and low-carbon petrochemical development, the new southern section will focus on integrated infrastructure, digital upgrades, and stringent safety standards. Provincial authorities will conduct final inspections before projects begin operation. **(ChemNet Chemical Headlines)**