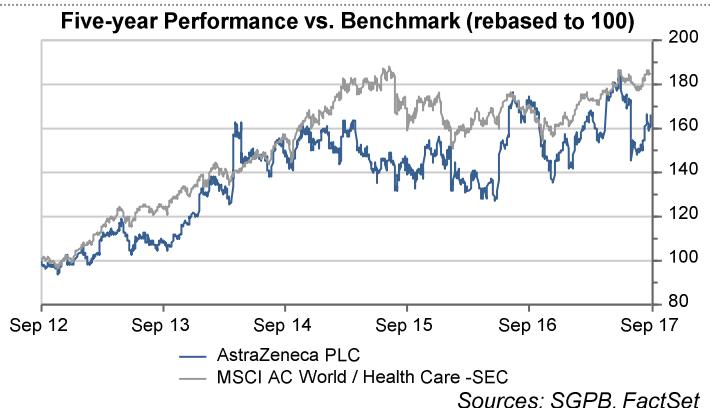


AstraZeneca Plc

Isin / FactSet Code	GB0009895292 / AZN-GB	Market cap (in EUR mn)	70 562	52-week high	55.20	Rating	BUY
Sector	Health Care	Market cap (in local curr. mn)	61 877	52-week low	39.96	12-month target price	57.00
Industry	Pharmaceuticals	Local currency	GBP	YTD return%	10.15	Last price (26/09/17)	48.88
Benchmark	MSCI AC World / Information Technology -SEC	Free-float	94%	12-month return%	-4.14	Potential upside	17%

Investment Case:

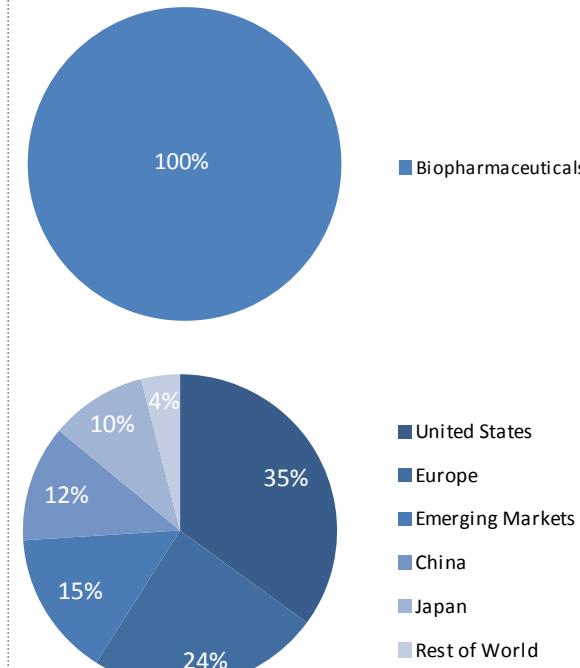
- AstraZeneca (AZN) coped well with its patent cliff (loss of exclusivity for blockbusters Seroquel, Nexium and Crestor). FY17 is expected to be the trough in earnings. Once sales of its new drugs take off, then the operating margin (31% in 2Q17) can increase strongly (38% FY20E) as marketing spend for these specialty drugs is lower (far fewer sales representatives are needed).
- After the failure of the MYSTIC trial AZN published strong data for other oncology trials (such as lung and breast cancer), as well as good data for injectable respiratory drugs (such as asthma and COPD) and it closed a promising oncology-deal with MRK.
- AZN's shares have almost recovered from the 16% drop following the disappointment from the MYSTIC trial data due to positive pipeline news and takeover speculation. We believe the pipeline has been de-risked, offering multiple opportunities in various therapeutic areas (12 new potential drugs). We initiate AZN with a Buy rating and a target price of GBP 57.00, valuing it at ~20.0x FY18E EPS.



Company Description:

AstraZeneca (AZN) develops prescription medicines primarily in three areas: oncology, cardiovascular & metabolic diseases and respiratory. It is selectively active in autoimmunity, neuroscience and infection. Its Cambridge HQ brings together small molecule and biologics R&D. Other R&D centres are in Gothenburg (Sweden) and Gaithersburg (US).

Revenue by Key Segments & Geographies: FY16 (FY ending December)



Sources: SGPB, FactSet

Recent Developments Analysis:

- AZN published 1H17 product sales of USD 9.8 bn (-10% LFL) with core EPS of USD 1.87 (+1% at constant currencies/cc). Results were overshadowed by the failure of the MYSTIC trial (immuno-oncology).
- FY17 guidance is for low-to-mid single-digit sales decline and low-to-mid teens EPS decline. Far more important is the expected launch of several new oncology (Imfinzi, Tagrisso) and respiratory drugs for severe asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/COPD (Bevespi), which should drive strong sales growth from FY19E.
- On 27 July, AZN announced a global strategic oncology collaboration with MRK for Lynparza, which is approved for ovarian cancer and now being developed in 14 indications across several cancer types. MRK paid USD 1.6 bn upfront and has agreed to pay up to USD 6.2 bn when future regulatory and sales milestones are met. The size of the deal implies that the consensus may underestimate Lynparza's potential (USD 1.1 bn FY22E).
- AZN has promising projects in cardiovascular and metabolic diseases (hyperkalaemia, anaemia). It has a strong diabetes franchise. Farxiga (nearly USD 2.0 bn sales in FY22E) is a leader in the SGLT2 class, a strongly growing segment of the market.

AstraZeneca Plc

DESCRIPTION			VALUATION					GROWTH				PROFITABILITY			BALANCE SHEET			
FactSet Code	Company	Cap (mn€)	EV/EBITDA (e)		P/E (e)		Div. Yield	Sales Growth		EPS Growth		EBITDA Margin	Net Margin	ROE	Net Debt/ EBITDA		Net Debt/ Equity	
			FY1x	FY2x	FY1x	FY2x		FY1%	FY1%	FY2%	FY1%				FY0x	FY1x		
ROG-CH	Roche Holding Ltd Genusssch.	184 144	10.3	9.6	16.0	15.0	3.5	4.7	4.5	6.3	5.8	40.6	20.5	46.5	1.0	0.4	0.31	
NOVN-CH	Novartis AG	171 566	17.1	15.8	18.0	16.4	3.4	-2.7	3.5	-2.5	10.2	28.9	22.8	15.4	1.3	1.3	0.21	
MRK-US	Merck & Co., Inc.	150 537	11.5	10.9	16.7	15.4	2.9	1.4	2.6	2.6	8.6	40.1	26.4	28.9	0.8	0.5	0.31	
SAN-FR	Sanofi	106 334	9.5	9.3	14.8	14.3	3.6	7.2	2.6	0.9	3.4	32.3	19.8	11.9	0.9	0.4	0.14	
GSK-GB	GlaxoSmithKline plc	83 123	8.4	8.2	13.4	13.1	5.4	8.2	2.1	8.9	2.2	33.9	18.0	379.2	3.1	1.3	12.14	
			Average:	11.4	10.8	15.8	14.8	3.8	3.8	3.1	3.2	6.0	35.2	21.5	96.4	1.4	0.8	2.62
AZN-GB	AstraZeneca PLC	70 562	12.5	12.4	17.5	17.2	4.3	-11.5	1.8	-19.2	2.7	34.9	21.8	32.6	1.8	1.6	0.73	

na=Not available, nm=Not meaningful

Financial terms detailed in glossary

Sources: SGPB, FactSet

Risks To Our Investment Case:

- Pricing pressure, launch costs and pipeline investments weigh on margins.
- On 27 July 2017, AZN published negative data for the MYSTIC lung cancer trial on progression free survival (PFS, the time a patient survives without further tumor growth). Data for overall survival (OS, the percentage of patients who are still alive for a certain period of time after starting treatment) will be published in 2018. There is still some confidence that OS data will show a benefit, based on experience with previous immune oncology trials. There are already five anti-PD-1/PD-L1 immune oncology drugs on the market. Competition will be fierce.
- The share price may have unduly risen due to takeover speculation.
- AZN has an ambitious 2023 sales target of USD 45 bn. It may have to drop this target. We don't consider this as a major risk as long as sales momentum is picking up from FY19 onwards. Nevertheless, AZN remains highly dependent on the commercial success of its new drugs.

Business Quality Review:

- AZN is focussed on the development and commercialisation of prescription drugs, mostly in specialty pharma. It has a broad portfolio of products with a rapid decreasing vulnerability to exclusivity loss. Its pipeline is broad, deep and increasingly de-risked. It has a global presence. China is a key growth driver.
- AZN spent USD 5.89 bn on R&D in FY16 or 25.6% of total revenues.
- Net debt is expected at USD 12.2 bn at the end of FY17.
- S&P credit rating: BBB+ (Stable outlook)

Dividend Policy:

- AZN policy is to maintain or grow its DPS. According to AZN, "DPS will reflect the board's view of the earnings prospects over the entirety of the pharmaceutical investment cycle".
- Dividends are paid twice a year, with a greater proportion paid as a second interim.
- DPS of USD 2.80 has been flat since FY11. FY17 DPS is expected at USD 2.80, a payout ratio of 75%. The payout ratio should drop in the coming years, allowing for renewed growth.

Financial Terms And Acronyms

BV (Book Value): is the total value of net assets of a company.

BVS (Book Value Per Share): is the total value of the net assets of a company divided by the total number of outstanding shares.

C/I (Cost Income Ratio): is used for valuing banks. It shows a company's costs in relation to its income.

CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate): is a term used for the geometric progression ratio that provides a constant rate of return over a specific time period.

CAPEX (Capital Expenditure): is the fund used by the company to acquire or upgrade the physical assets such as property, industrial buildings or equipment. The most capital intensive industries include oil, telecom and utilities.

CAR (Capital Adequacy Ratio): is a measure of a bank's capital. It is expressed as a percentage of a bank's risk-weighted credit exposures.

CET I (Common Equity Tier I Ratio) : is a measure of the bank's common equity capital as a percentage of risk-weighted assets. It is generally compared to a defined benchmark stipulated by the regulatory authority to determine whether a bank is sufficiently capitalised.

COMBINED RATIO: It represents the total of acquisition and administrative expenses, and claims and insurance benefits incurred, divided by net premiums earned.

DIVIDEND PER SHARE (DPS): Dividend per share or DPS (total dividend paid out divided by the total number of shares) expressed as a percentage of current stock price.

EBIT (Earnings Before Interest and Taxes): profit before taking into account interest payments and income taxes.

EBIT Margin: Ratio that expresses EBIT as a percentage of total sales (EBIT/Sales*100)

EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortisation): profit before taking into account interest payments, income taxes and non-cash operating expenses (depreciation and amortisation).

EPS (Earnings Per Share): is the division of total net profit by the number of shares.

EQUITY is the difference between the value of the assets and the cost of the liabilities.

EV (Enterprise Value) is a measure of a company's value, often used as an alternative to straightforward market capitalisation. It is calculated as (market cap + debt + minority interest + preferred shares) – total cash – cash equivalents.

FCF (Free Cash Flow): represents the difference between operating cash flow and capital expenditures.

FFO (Funds from Operations): measures a REIT's operating performance. It is net income plus gains (minus losses) from property sale and purchase. FFO per share is often used in place of earnings per share when analysing REITs.

FY0: Realised year, **FY1**: Current unrealised year, **FY2**: next year, **FY17E**: Fiscal year 2017 estimation

GOODWILL: is an intangible asset that arises as a result of the acquisition of one company by another company for a premium value.

GROSS INCOME: gross profit calculated as a company's total sales minus its cost of goods sold (COGS) that corresponds to labour and production costs.

GROSS MARGIN: expresses gross income as a percentage of total sales.

LIKE FOR LIKE (LFL) GROWTH: is a measure of growth in sales, adjusted for new or divested businesses.

Loan-to-deposit (L/D) ratio: Loans/Deposits. This helps in assessing a bank's liquidity, lending capacity and balance sheet quality.

LTV (Loan-To-Value Ratio): is a financial term used to express the ratio of a loan to the value of an asset purchased.

NAV (Net Asset Value): is similar to book value and is also called per investment unit. NAV is the marked-to-market value of the company's property investments less liabilities.

ND (Net Debt): is calculated as a company's total debt minus cash and other similar liquid assets.

NET MARGIN: is a financial ratio which measures the profitability of the net income of a company.

NI (Net Income or Bottom Line): represents a company's total earnings (or profit) which is calculated by adjusting revenues for the costs, depreciation, interest, taxes and other expenses.

NIM: Net Interest Margin

NON-PERFORMING LOANS (NPL) RATIO: NPLs/Loans. This indicates the percentage of the loans that are non-performing or are in stressed segments.

OPERATING MARGIN: See definition of EBIT Margin.

ORGANIC GROWTH: is the growth rate that a company can achieve by increasing its output and enhancing sales, excluding any profits or growth from takeovers or M&A activities.

P/E or PER (Price Earnings Ratio): reflects the trading price of a share in relation to the expected earnings.

P/BV (Price To Book Value): expresses the share price with regard to the accounting value of the company.

PAYOUT RATIO: is the proportion of earnings paid out as dividends to shareholders and typically expressed as a percentage.

PROFIT WARNING: is the announcement made by the company before its earnings release indicating the investors that its earnings would not meet the analysts' expectations.

RWA (Risk Weighted Assets): is a measure of the bank's assets, weighted according to their risk. It involves the risk weighting of both on and off-balance-sheet exposures.

REVENUE GROWTH: Illustrates the growth of sales over a given period.

ROA (Return on assets): a financial ratio that is calculated as net income divided by total assets and shows how profitable a company is relative to its total assets.

ROC (Return on invested capital): a profitability ratio which is calculated as net income minus dividends divided by total invested capital.

ROE (Return On Equity): The amount of net income returned as a percentage of shareholders' equity. Return on equity measures a corporation's profitability by disclosing how much profit a company generates with the money shareholders have invested.

TBV (Tangible Book Value): is the book value excluding intangible assets.

TBV/S (Tangible Book Value Per Share): allows to estimate the accounting value of a company by measuring its stockholders' equity per share. Formula: Re-valued Net Assets/Total Shares of Company.

WACC (Weighted Average Cost of Capital): also referred to as the firm's cost of capital, it is the rate that a company is expected to pay on an average to all its security holders to finance its assets.

WORKING CAPITAL: is the difference between a company's current assets and current liabilities and shows whether the company has sufficient short-term assets to cover its short-term debts.

Appendix

Investment Rating Definitions:

Buy	Stock that is expected to outperform its MSCI sector index over a 12-month investment horizon.
Neutral	Stock that is expected to perform in line with its MSCI sector index over a 12-month investment horizon.
Sell	Stock that is expected to underperform its MSCI sector index over a 12-month investment horizon.
Restricted	Covered stock that is not rated or assigned a target price as the Societe Generale group has a capital market transaction with that company.
Termination	Stock is subject to be deleted from the SGPB recommended universe and will no longer be followed. In this case, a coverage termination alert is issued.

Recommended Universe Principle:

The Recommended Universe is made of companies from the Investment Universe as defined by Societe Generale Private Banking guidelines. Members are chosen by Equity Solutions. There are no lower nor upper limits on the number of stocks in the Recommended Universe. There is no specific constraint in term of geographical or industry representation. A company from the recommended universe can be subject to a rating change, as decided by the Equity Solutions expert covering the company. When a stock is downgraded to a Sell rating, it is still followed for at least 3-month, after which Equity Solutions issues a coverage termination alert.

Product Risk Rating:

The product category of single equity, stock, share is rated at '4'.

In order to draw the attention of potential investors to the risk linked to each investment solution, Societe Generale Private Banking has ranked each product according to its own specific risk scale from the lowest risk (class 0) to the highest risk (class 4). The risk classification in 5 levels, is a Societe Generale Private Banking internal risk indicator. These internal indicators are based on the Value at Risk 95% 1 year (VaR). The VaR corresponds to the maximum amount that the portfolio being considered could lose in normal market conditions over a given period with a given probability (past performances and simulations of performance shall not be considered as a reliable indicator of future performance). If the VaR 95% 1 year is y%, this means that there is a 95% probability that the portfolio will not lose more than y% of its value in one year.

Risk Levels Losses

0 - Lowest Risk	There is a 95% probability that the product will not depreciate in value in one year.
1 - Low Risk	There is a 95% probability that the product will not lose more than 5% of its value in one year.
2 - Medium Risk	There is a 95% probability that the product will not lose more than 15% of its value in one year.
3 - High Risk	There is a 95% probability that the product will not lose more than 30% of its value in one year.
4 - Highest Risk	There is a minimum of 5% probability that the product will lose more than 30% of its value in one year.

1Y Target Price:

BUY: GBP 57.00



Equity Note Timeline: First disseminated: 4pm Paris time, 27-Sep-16 | Last updated: not applicable

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SG acted as co-manager in Novartis' bond issue (7y, 12y Eur).

SG acted as Co-manager in Novartis Finance's Bond issue(EUR;RegS;4yr/10.5yr).

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Risk Classification

R0: Lowest Risk

R1: Low Risk

R2: Medium Risk

R3: High Risk

R4: Highest Risk

These internal indicators are based on the Value at Risk 95% 1 year (VaR). The VaR corresponds to the maximum amount that the portfolio being considered could lose in normal market conditions over a given period with a given probability (past performances and simulations of performance shall not be considered as a reliable indicator of future performance). If the VaR 95% 1 year is $y\%$, this means that there is a 95% probability that the portfolio will not lose more than $y\%$ of its value in one year.

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