# COMPANY UPDATE

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# **Healthcare Team**

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#### ► AT A GLANCE

Recommend	BUY	
Target price	KRW140,000	10.6%
Current price	KRW126,600	
Market cap	KRW2.4t/USD2.0	b
Shares (float)	18,656,000 (51.79	%)
52-week high/low	KRW143,500/KR	N69,500
Avg daily trading value (60-day)	KRW19.8b/ USD16.8m	

## ONE-YEAR PERFORMANCE

	1M	6M	12M
ST Pharm (%)	37.3	16.0	62.5
Vs Kosdaq (%pts)	40.3	16.9	48.2

# KEY CHANGES

(KRW)	New	Old	Diff
Recommend.	BUY	BUY	
Target price	140,000	140,000	0.0%
2021E EPS	953	917	3.9%
2022E EPS	1,527	1,561	-2.2%

# SAMSUNG vs THE STREET

No of estimates	4
Target price	125,000
Recommendation	4.0
BUY★★★: 5 / BUY: 4 / HOLD: 3 / SELL: 2	2/SELL★★★:1

# **ST Pharm** (237690)

# Aggressive capex to cement position as global CMO

- ST Pharm on Nov 24 announced its new capacity expansion plans. Its oligonucleotide (oligo) CMO capacity is set to rise from 1.8 mol (as of Nov 2021) to 6.4 mol in 2022 and to 14 mol in 2025.
- Rumors are circulating that the firm produces Novartis' Leqvio. FDA approval of the oligo drug in 2022 would lead to ST Pharm's cGMP production facilities gaining a track record, likely leading to more oligo CMO orders.
- As the CMO is expanding capacity to keep up with growing oligo manufacturing demand, and further as its utilization should rise with time, we raise our 12-month target price to KRW140,000 and reiterate BUY.

# WHAT'S THE STORY?

Aggressively investing in capacity to cement position as global CMO: ST Pharm on Nov 24 announced its new capacity expansion plans (after its expansion announcements in May and Aug 2020). Its oligonucleotide (oligo) CMO capacity is set to rise from 1.8 mol (as of Nov 2021) to 6.4 mol in 2022 and to 14 mol in 2025. ST Pharm is not the only player betting big on this space. Since 2020, oligo CMOs Avecia and Agilent have been adding capacity, while peptide manufacturer Bachem and new drug CMO firm Wuxi AppTec have announced that they will enter the oligo CMO arena. Yields, however, vary widely by oligo synthesis technology. ST Pharm boasts competitive yields, is set to secure the world's largest capacity, and has secured global pharma/biotech firms as clients. It is rumored to be producing Novartis' dyslipidemia treatment Leqvio. FDA approval of the oligo drug in 2022 would give ST Pharm's cGMP production facilities a track record, likely leading to more oligo CMO orders.

**Leqvio—first oligo drug requiring significant volume production:** Leqvio targets 1.6m patients and will need 1 tonne of production *pa* (based on estimated peak sales). With four hepatitis B virus treatments (requiring 1-2 tonnes of production *pa* each) and five cardiovascular treatments (at least 2 tonnes *pa* each) scheduled to be released over 2023-2028, the prospects are bright for CMO demand.

(Continued on the next page)

# SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL DATA

	2020	2021E	2022E	2023E
Revenue (KRWb)	124	179	206	336
Operating profit (KRWb)	-19	15	19	49
Net profit (adj) (KRWb)	-13	19	29	49
EPS (adj) (KRW)	-651	953	1,527	2,524
EPS (adj) growth (% y-y)	nm	nm	60.3	65.3
EBITDA margin (%)	-3.8	16.8	16.6	18.6
ROE (%)	-4.1	5.8	8.7	12.9
P/E (adj) (x)	n/a	132.9	82.9	50.2
P/B (x)	6.6	7.5	6.9	6.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	n/a	79.3	69.0	38.0
Dividend yield (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Company data, Samsung Securities estimates

**Maintaining BUY and raising target to KRW140,000:** We raise our DCF-based target price to KRW140,000, as the CMO: 1) is expanding capacity to keep up with growing oligo manufacturing demand; and 2) should see its utilization rise with time. Its current capacity of 1.8 mol can produce 300-800 kg of oligos *pa*, likely rising to 6.4 mol in 2022 and 14 mol (2.3-7 tonnes) in 2025, with the new capacity set to reach full utilization in 2028 and 2030, respectively (considering the clinical stage of clients' oligo drugs, the number of target patients, the probability of clinical success, and the time from launch to peak sales (four years)). Yield per batch is likely to be kept at 50-70% given clinical and commercial batch schedules.

		202	2E	Case	Major assumptions
(KRWb, KRW)	Base	Bull	Bear	Case	(reflecting oligonucleotide market growth)
ST Pharm (A=B+C+D)	2,507	3,328	1,532		<ul> <li>Oligo: Full utilization at 1.8 mol, utilization at 20-50% with additional capacity of 4.6 mol</li> </ul>
Present value (B)	323	454	190	Base	<ul> <li>Production efficiency: 70% at 6.4 mol, 50% at 7.6 mol</li> </ul>
PV of terminal value (C)	2,208	2,897	1,365		
Net cash (D)	-23	-23	-23		Oligo: Full utilization at 1.8 mol, utilization at 30-60% with additional capacity of 4.6 mol
Outstanding shares ('000) (E)	18,656	18,656	18,656	Bull	<ul> <li>Production efficiency: 70% at full capacity (14 mol)</li> </ul>
Fair price per share (A/E)	134,397	178,388	82,101		
Target price	140,000	180,000	80,000		<ul> <li>Oligo: Full utilization at 1.8 mol, utilization at 15-40% with additional capacity of 4.6 mol</li> </ul>
Current price	115,500	115,500	115,500	Bear	<ul> <li>Production efficiency: 70% at 1.8 mol, 50% within 7.6 mol</li> </ul>
Upside	21.2	55.8	-30.7	1	

# ST Pharm: Target price calculation

Note: Major assumptions are for oligonucleotide CMOs;

Downstream demand—*ie*, from oligonucleotide therapies—affects: 1) timing of full utilization; and 2) potential increase in competitors' capacity Source: Samsung Securities estimates

# ST Pharm: DCF valuation

(KRWb)	2022E	2023E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2027E	2028E
New drug API	142	250	320	392	467	531	596
Chg (y-y)	21.4	76.1	27.8	22.6	18.9	13.8	12.1
Chemical API	15	15	17	19	22	26	31
Chg (y-y)	4.5	6.7	10.1	12.2	14.6	17.5	21.0
Oligonucleotide API	128	235	303	373	445	506	565
Chg (y-y)	23.7	84.0	28.9	23.2	19.2	13.7	11.7
Generic API	32	33	33	34	34	34	35
Chg (y-y)	2.4	2.1	1.8	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.7
Fine chemical API	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
Chg (y-y)	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.9
mRNA	0	20	20	20	20	20	20
Sales	206	336	407	481	557	623	689
Chg (y-y)	15.1	63.2	21.2	18.2	15.8	11.9	10.5
EBIT	19	49	92	138	179	216	252
TAX	4	11	20	30	39	47	55
NOPAT	15	38	72	108	140	168	197
Depreciation	15	14	13	12	11	11	10
Capex	0	0	0	7	7	7	7
Increase in working capital	13	75	41	7	7	7	8
FCF	-13	-51	18	96	128	157	186
WACC (%)	8.0						
Terminal growth rate (%)	3.0						
Terminal value at 2028							3,794
Discount (%)	7.4	14.3	20.7	26.6	32.1	37.1	41.8
PV (A)	-12	-44	14	70	87	99	108
PV of terminal value (B)							2,208
EV (A+B)	2,546						

Note: COE=8.4%, risk-free rate (1.2%; 3-year KTB yield) + market risk premium 9.1 % x beta of 0.8, COD = 7.2%, terminal growth=3% Source: Samsung Securities estimates

Year-end Dec 31 (KRWb)	2019	2020	2021E	2022E	2023E
Sales	93	124	179	206	336
Cost of goods sold	95	104	113	145	228
Gross profit	-2	20	66	61	108
Gross margin (%)	-1.7	16.1	36.7	29.5	32.1
SG&A expenses	25	39	50	41	59
Operating profit	-27	-19	15	19	49
Operating margin (%)	-28.6	-15.2	8.7	9.4	14.4
Non-operating gains (losses)	2	2	5	15	12
Financial profit	3	6	8	15	12
Financial costs	1	4	3	0	0
Equity-method gains (losses)	0	0	0	0	0
Other	-0	0	-0	0	0
Pre-tax profit	-25	-17	21	34	61
Taxes	-6	-4	2	5	12
Effective tax rate (%)	25.8	21.8	9.5	13.3	20.0
Profit from continuing operations	-19	-13	19	29	49
Profit from discontinued operations	0	0	0	0	0
Net profit	-19	-13	19	29	49
Net margin (%)	-19.9	-10.6	10.4	14.3	14.5
Net profit (controlling interests)	-19	-12	18	28	47
Net profit (non-controlling interests)	0	-1	1	1	1
EBITDA	-16	-5	30	34	62
EBITDA margin (%)	-16.6	-3.8	16.8	16.6	18.6
EPS (parent-based) (KRW)	-993	-651	953	1,527	2,524
EPS (consolidated) (KRW)	-993	-705	997	1,575	2,604
Adjusted EPS (KRW)*	-993	-651	953	1,527	2,524

# Cash flow statement

Year-end Dec 31 (KRWb)	2019	2020	2021E	2022E	2023E
Cash flow from operations	-31	-21	15	22	-22
Net profit	-19	-13	19	29	49
Non-cash profit and expenses	8	13	18	10	14
Depreciation	11	14	15	15	14
Amortization	0	0	0	0	0
Other	-3	-1	4	-5	-0
Changes in A/L from operating activities	-20	-21	-20	-13	-72
Cash flow from investments	-10	-69	-20	1	-38
Change in tangible assets	-6	-17	-46	0	0
Change in financial assets	22	-47	16	-9	-50
Other	-26	-5	10	9	12
Cash flow from financing	5	116	0	0	50
Change in debt	16	111	1	0	50
Change in equity	-3	6	0	0	0
Dividends	-9	0	0	0	0
Other	1	-1	-0	0	0
Change in cash	-35	26	-2	23	-10
Cash at beginning of year	48	13	39	36	59
Cash at end of year	13	39	36	59	49
Gross cash flow	-11	-0	37	39	62
Free cash flow	-37	-38	-31	22	-22

Note: \* Excluding one-off items \*\* Fully diluted, excluding one-off items \*\*\* From companies subject to equity-method valuation

Source: Company data, Samsung Securities estimates

# **Balance sheet**

Year-end Dec 31 (KRWb)	2019	2020	2021E	2022E	2023E
Current assets	144	236	247	296	434
Cash & equivalents	13	39	36	59	49
Accounts receivable	35	45	0	0	0
Inventories	41	45	83	93	152
Other current assets	55	106	127	143	232
Fixed assets	196	210	252	237	223
Investment assets	4	10	14	14	14
Tangible assets	170	174	212	198	184
Intangible assets	9	10	10	10	10
Other long-term assets	14	16	15	15	15
Total assets	341	446	499	533	657
Current liabilities	16	19	47	51	74
Accounts payable	7	5	0	0	0
Short-term debt	0	0	0	0	0
Other current liabilities	9	14	47	51	74
Long-term liabilities	21	130	134	134	187
Bonds & long-term debt	15	126	127	127	177
Other long-term liabilities	6	5	7	7	11
Total liabilities	37	149	181	185	262
Owners of parent equity	301	295	315	343	389
Capital stock	9	9	9	9	9
Capital surplus	169	175	175	175	175
Retained earnings	124	112	129	158	205
Other	-1	-1	1	1	0
Non-controlling interests' equity	2	1	3	4	6
Total equity	303	297	318	347	395
Net debt	-35	4	21	-10	0

# **Financial ratios**

Year-end Dec 31	2019	2020	2021E	2022E	2023E
Growth (%)					
Sales	-4.6	33.1	44.0	15.1	63.2
Operating profit	nm	nm	nm	24.6	151.1
Net profit	nm	nm	nm	58.1	65.3
Adjusted EPS**	nm	nm	nm	60.3	65.3
Per-share data (KRW)					
EPS (parent-based)	-993	-651	953	1,527	2,524
EPS (consolidated)	-993	-705	997	1,575	2,604
Adjusted EPS**	-993	-651	953	1,527	2,524
BVPS	16,125	15,830	16,863	18,390	20,865
DPS (common)	0	0	0	0	0
Valuations (x)					
P/E***	n/a	n/a	132.9	82.9	50.2
P/B***	1.8	6.6	7.5	6.9	6.1
EV/EBITDA	n/a	n/a	79.3	69.0	38.0
Ratios (%)					
ROE	-5.9	-4.1	5.8	8.7	12.9
ROA	-5.4	-3.3	3.9	5.7	8.2
ROIC	-8.5	-5.8	4.7	5.1	10.8
Payout ratio	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dividend yield (common)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net debt to equity	-11.5	1.4	6.7	-2.9	0.0
Interest coverage (x)	-338.6	-29.2	n/a	n/a	n/a

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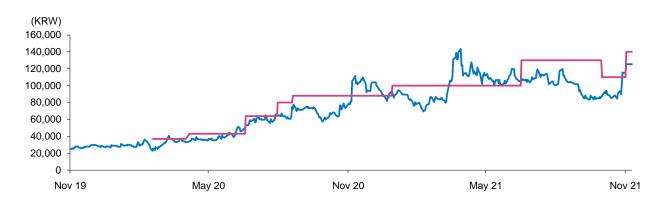
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# Target price changes in past two years



# Rating changes over past two years (adjusted share prices)

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Date	2020/3/17	5/4	7/17	8/28	9/17	2021/1/26	7/15	10/29	11/30
Recommendation	BUY	BUY	BUY	BUY	BUY	BUY	BUY	BUY	BUY
Target price (KRW)	37,000	43,000	64,000	80,000	88,000	100,000	130,000	110,000	140,000
Gap* (average)	-11.60	-7.16	-6.41	-19.79	-7.73	0.36	-21.70	-15.23	
(max or min)**	10.27	19.53	3.44	-6.75	26.70	43.50	-7.77	5.18	

Industry

NEUTRAL

OVERWEIGHT

Expected to outperform market by 5% or more within 12 months

Expected to outperform/underperform market by less than

UNDERWEIGHT Expected to underperform market by 5% or more within 12 months

5% within 12 months

Note: \* [(average, maximum, or minimum share price over duration of target price minus target price) / target price] x 100%

\*\* Maximum/minimum share price if new target is higher/lower than market close on the business day prior to target price change

Samsung	Securities	uses the	following	investment	ratings.

# Company BUY

#### Expected to increase in value by 10% or more within 12 months and is highly attractive within sector HOLD Expected to increase/decrease in value by less than 10% within 12 months

Expected to decrease in value by 10% or more within 12 months SELL

# Percentage of ratings in 12 months prior to Sep 30, 2021 BUY (87.1%) | HOLD (12.9%) | SELL (0%)

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