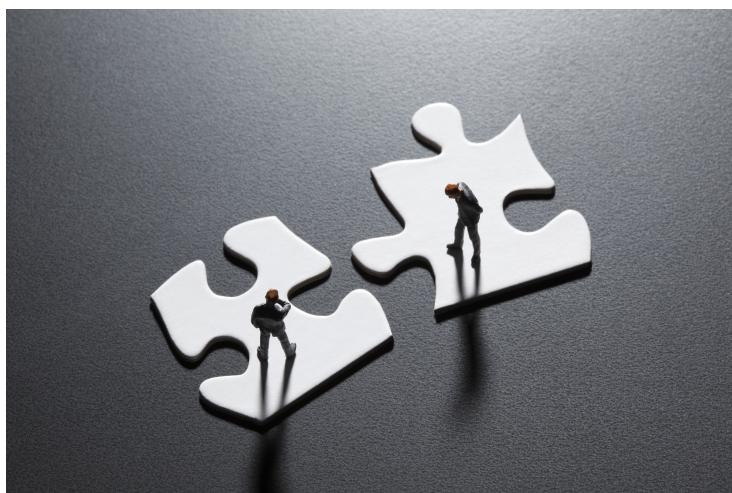


Unichem picks up stakes in Optimus Group

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The acquisition will give Unichem access to the active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) facilities of the two companies.



Unichem Laboratories has acquired 19.99% each in two bulk drug companies of Hyderabad-based pharmaceutical group Optimus for a total of Rs 120 crore (\$16.5 million).

As part of the transaction, the firm bought stake in Optimus Drugs Pvt. Ltd for Rs 72.08 crore and acquired holding in Optrix Laboratories Pvt. Ltd for Rs 47.92 crore.

The acquisition will give Unichem access to the active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) facilities of the two companies in Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam. The deal will also provide the acquirer with additional capacity to fulfil its export orders.