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Sandoz Pharma provides cardiac patients with treatment at affordable price

Sandoz Egypt Pharma held conference to announce availability of drug containing Clopidogrel, used for treatment of cardiovascular disease, in Egypt

Sameh Shaheen, professor of cardiology at Ain Shams University and former president of the Egyptian Society of Cardiology, said, "cardiovascular disease is the number one cause of death worldwide, and of 46% of deaths in Egypt. Compared to some African and Middle Eastern countries, Egypt has some of the highest mortality rates due to ischaemic heart disease. Patients with complete coronary blockage represent 54% of acute coronary syndrome patients. Due to the lack of

resources, more than 55% of patients receive treatments via thrombolytics and not through primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI)."

"This is the first time a generic drug of this kind, compliant with international standards, is introduced to the Egyptian market. It has been proven and approved to be bioequivalent to the original drug, and Sandoz Pharmaceuticals, one of Novartis' divisions, has managed to release a drug containing Clopidogrel to the public for less than half

of the original product's price in Egypt."

Hossam Kandil, professor and head of cardiology at Cairo University, said, "the latest American College of Cardiology Guidelines in 2016 and the European Society of Cardiology Guidelines for 2017 is the use of dual antiplatelet therapy—aspirin and a Clopidogrel-containing drug—for a 12-month period for patients suffering from acute coronary syndrome. Newer recommendations are to extend treatment periods for high-risk patients.