

Salix Pharma will buy Santarus for \$2.12 billion

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Salix Pharmaceuticals will buy Santarus for about \$2.12 billion to add to its roster of drugs.

Salix will pay \$32 per share for Santarus' stock, the drugmakers said Thursday. They say the deal values Santarus at \$2.6 billion.

Salix Pharmaceuticals Ltd., based in Raleigh, N.C., is paying a 38 percent premium to Santarus Inc.'s closing price of \$23.22 Thursday.

The boards of both companies have approved the deal and say they expect the sale to close during the first quarter.

Salix sells Xifaxan, a treatment for traveler's diarrhea and [neurological problems](#) associated with [liver failure](#), the ulcerative colitis drug Apriso, and constipation drug Relistor.

San Diego-based Santarus, whose stock price has more than doubled this year, sells Glumetza for diabetes, Zegerid for [acid reflux](#), and Uceris for ulcerative colitis.

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