

Barton

Ans 2: The Drug Discovery pipeline

is the set of drug candidates that an individual pharmaceutical company or the entire pharmaceutical industry collectively has under discovery or development at any given point in time.

The RSD pipeline involves various phases that can broadly be grouped in 4 stages.

- 1 - Discovery
- 2 - Pre-clinical
- 3 - Clinical Trials
- 4 - Marketing.

→ The drug pipeline is an important indicator of the value and future prospects of a company. Usually the more compounds in the pipeline and the more advanced stage they are in the better. Other factors that are taken into account when assessing the value of pipeline include the size of the market of each drug, the market share of the drug is expected to capture and the risk that it will not be approved.

→ The cost of developing a new drug is astronomical. Typically a drug cost many hundreds of millions and can reach 1 billion dollars over 15-17 years. Assessing the risk and identifying and weeding out as early as possible compounds that may not eventually get approved is essential. In the pharmaceutical industry, the effectiveness of the drug is checked.