

Saudi Arabia RNA Therapeutics Market By Product (Vaccines, Drugs, Others), By Indication (Rare Genetic Diseases/Hereditary Diseases, Infectious Diseases, Others), By Region and Competition, Forecast & Opportunities, 2020-2030F

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Abstracts

Saudi Arabia RNA Therapeutics Market was valued at USD 135.69 Million in 2024 and is expected to reach USD 167.00 Million by 2030 with a CAGR of 3.72% during the forecast period. Several factors are contributing to the expansion of the RNA therapeutics market in Saudi Arabia. One of the primary drivers is the government's focus on advancing its healthcare and biotechnology industries as part of Vision 2030. This strategic initiative emphasizes innovation, research and development (R&D), and local manufacturing capabilities, all of which support the growth of RNA-based therapies.

Increased prevalence of chronic and genetic diseases in the Kingdom is also propelling the demand for advanced treatments like RNA therapeutics. With conditions such as cancer and cardiovascular diseases becoming more widespread, there is a growing need for targeted therapies that can address the underlying genetic factors contributing to these diseases. RNA therapies offer the precision and specificity required to potentially revolutionize treatment outcomes.

The Saudi government is actively supporting the growth of the RNA therapeutics market through various initiatives aimed at fostering innovation and scientific collaboration. Investments in biotechnology research centers, partnerships with global pharma companies, and efforts to streamline regulatory approvals are part of the government's strategy to strengthen the healthcare and life sciences sectors.

Key Market Drivers

Growth in Healthcare Industry

The Saudi government's investments in healthcare, as part of its Vision 2030 initiative, have propelled the growth of advanced therapeutic modalities, including RNA therapeutics. Saudi Arabia represents 60% of the healthcare expenditure across the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, with the sector continuing to be a key priority for the Saudi Government. In 2023, the country allocated USD 50.4 billion to healthcare and social development, which accounted for 16.96% of its total budget, making it the second-largest expenditure after education. Vision 2030 aims to modernize the healthcare system, enhance medical services, and reduce reliance on imported treatments by fostering local biotech industries. This ambitious plan is encouraging the adoption of innovative medical technologies such as RNA therapies, which are seen as a critical tool in treating complex diseases, including cancer, rare genetic disorders, and infectious diseases.

The health policy in Saudi Arabia is designed to deliver comprehensive, equitable, and accessible healthcare to all citizens. Represented by the Ministry of Health (MoH), the government ensures an integrated healthcare network that spans all regions. Healthcare services at government facilities are provided free of charge to citizens, aligned with a new health strategy that addresses the sector's evolving needs. In collaboration with regional councils, the MoH assesses healthcare demand, locations, and service levels, tailoring these decisions to regional demographics, geographic factors, and prevalent health conditions. Increased government funding for healthcare infrastructure development, research facilities, and partnerships with global pharmaceutical companies has provided a strong foundation for the growth of RNA therapeutics. As Saudi Arabia's healthcare sector continues to evolve, the country is expected to see further advancements in the development and delivery of RNA-based treatments.

The rising demand for personalized medicine in Saudi Arabia is closely linked to the growth of RNA therapeutics. RNA therapies offer the potential to deliver highly targeted treatments tailored to the genetic makeup of individual patients. As the healthcare industry shifts towards more personalized and precision-based approaches, RNA therapeutics are gaining prominence as a promising solution for treating diseases at the molecular level.

Surge in Technological Advancements

The surge in technological advancements has become a significant driver of the Saudi Arabia RNA therapeutics market, fueling innovation, improving therapeutic outcomes, and expanding the potential applications of RNA-based treatments. As the global healthcare industry embraces cutting-edge technologies, Saudi Arabia is following suit by integrating advanced platforms and research methodologies into its healthcare and biotechnology sectors, particularly in RNA therapeutics. Moderna, Inc., a biotechnology leader in messenger RNA (mRNA) therapeutics and vaccines, and Tabuk Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company, a prominent Saudi pharmaceutical firm, announced a partnership to commercialize the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine in 2021, as well as future variant-specific booster candidates in Saudi Arabia. According to the terms of the agreement, Tabuk Pharmaceuticals will hold the marketing authorization for the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine in the country. Additionally, the agreement provides Tabuk with the potential to explore distribution opportunities for other Moderna mRNA products, should they receive authorization in the future.

One of the key technological advancements driving the growth of the RNA therapeutics market in Saudi Arabia is the development of more sophisticated RNA-based delivery systems. Delivering RNA molecules, such as mRNA and siRNA, into targeted cells has long been a challenge, but recent breakthroughs in nanoparticle technology and lipid-based delivery vehicles have significantly improved the efficacy and safety of RNA therapeutics. These advanced delivery systems enable RNA molecules to reach specific cells with greater precision, minimizing potential side effects and maximizing the therapeutic impact. This progress is especially relevant in the treatment of genetic disorders, cancers, and rare diseases, where targeted therapies are crucial.

The emergence of CRISPR-based gene editing technologies is another driving force in the RNA therapeutics market. CRISPR, which uses RNA-guided enzymes to edit specific parts of the genome, has revolutionized the field of genetic medicine. This powerful technology allows for precise modifications to the genetic code, opening the door to innovative treatments for previously untreatable conditions. Saudi Arabia's focus on integrating CRISPR technology into its healthcare system has positioned the country at the forefront of RNA-based therapeutic development, offering new hope for patients with genetic disorders and rare diseases.

Key Market Challenges

Limited Infrastructure and Expertise

RNA therapeutics, particularly those based on advanced technologies like messenger RNA (mRNA) and RNA interference (RNAi), require sophisticated manufacturing facilities and high-level infrastructure for research, production, and distribution. The development of these therapies demands state-of-the-art laboratories, cleanrooms, and biomanufacturing facilities equipped with cutting-edge technology to ensure quality control and regulatory compliance. However, the existing infrastructure in Saudi Arabia is still evolving and may not yet be fully equipped to support the high demands of RNA therapeutic production at scale.

To bring RNA-based treatments to market efficiently, Saudi Arabia needs to further invest in upgrading its facilities, ensuring they meet international standards for biotechnology and pharmaceutical manufacturing. Without the proper infrastructure, the pace of development and market entry for RNA therapeutics could be delayed, hindering the Kingdom's ability to compete on a global scale.

Another major obstacle is the shortage of specialized expertise in RNA therapeutics. Developing and commercializing RNA-based treatments requires highly trained professionals in various fields, including molecular biology, genetics, bioinformatics, and clinical research. The complexity of RNA-based therapies means that Saudi Arabia must invest in human capital to build a workforce with the necessary skills to conduct research, develop products, and manage regulatory processes.

Key Market Trends

Expanding Clinical Trials and Research

The Saudi Arabian government is actively supporting the expansion of clinical trials and research as part of its Vision 2030 objectives to diversify the economy and enhance the healthcare sector. SCTE is a pioneering network focused on advancing clinical trial capacities and capabilities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This initiative emphasizes education, training, and raising public awareness about the significance of clinical trials. It engages partners, volunteers, as well as medical and research communities, while also attracting investments from the pharmaceutical industry. Sponsored by the National Industrial Development and Logistics Program (NIDLP), one of the Kingdom's largest programs aimed at supporting Vision 2030, SCTE involves key national academic, government, and international partners from academia, government, and industry. As part of this strategic vision, Saudi Arabia is investing heavily in research and development, encouraging the establishment of world-class research facilities and clinical trial centers. This investment is facilitating the growth of RNA therapeutics by

providing researchers with the resources they need to conduct innovative studies and clinical trials.

Government-backed initiatives, such as the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) streamlining clinical trial approval processes, have further accelerated the pace of research in RNA therapeutics. This conducive regulatory environment allows for faster and more efficient development of RNA-based treatments, contributing to the increasing number of clinical trials being conducted in the country.

Saudi Arabia is fostering greater collaboration between its academic institutions, pharmaceutical industry, and international research partners. Universities, such as King Saud University and King Abdulaziz University, are playing an instrumental role in conducting research on RNA therapeutics and are increasingly involved in clinical trials. These institutions are collaborating with pharmaceutical companies, both local and international, to further the development of RNA-based therapies.

Segmental Insights

Product Insights

Based on Product, Vaccines have emerged as the fastest growing segment in the Saudi Arabia RNA Therapeutics Market in 2024. One of the primary drivers behind the growth of RNA vaccines in Saudi Arabia is the proven effectiveness and speed at which mRNA vaccines can be developed and produced. The rapid development of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines demonstrated the potential of mRNA technology in responding to global health crises. This success has generated significant interest in applying mRNA technology to other infectious diseases, such as influenza, Zika virus, and HIV. In Saudi Arabia, the growing focus on expanding healthcare infrastructure and preparing for future pandemics has contributed to a higher demand for RNA vaccines, particularly those based on mRNA platforms.

Additionally, the increased acceptance of RNA-based vaccines in both clinical and public health settings has played a critical role in the segment's growth. As the global healthcare community has recognized the potential of RNA vaccines in providing quick, targeted, and effective immunity, Saudi Arabia has positioned itself to capitalize on this emerging technology. The country's commitment to advancing its healthcare sector, in alignment with Vision 2030, has led to an increase in investments aimed at accelerating the development, manufacturing, and distribution of RNA vaccines.

Indication Insights

Based on Indication, Rare Genetic Diseases/Hereditary Diseases have emerged as the fastest growing segment in the Saudi Arabia RNA Therapeutics Market during the forecast period. Many rare genetic and hereditary diseases have no known cure or effective treatments within traditional pharmaceutical approaches. These diseases often involve genetic mutations that affect critical biological functions, and conventional drugs are limited in their ability to address the underlying genetic causes. RNA therapeutics, including gene silencing, replacement, and editing technologies, provide a more precise method to target and modify the genetic material responsible for the disease. As a result, RNA-based therapies offer hope for patients with conditions that were previously deemed untreatable.

The significant advancements in mRNA technology, particularly following the success of COVID-19 vaccines, have played a crucial role in accelerating the development of RNA therapeutics for rare genetic and hereditary diseases. mRNA therapies have the ability to deliver genetic instructions directly to cells, enabling the production of functional proteins that may be deficient or mutated in patients with genetic disorders. This technological leap has opened up new treatment possibilities for rare diseases, especially those caused by genetic mutations, driving their growth as a key segment in the RNA therapeutics market.

Regional Insights

Based on Region, Northern & Central have emerged as the dominating region in the Saudi Arabia RNA Therapeutics Market in 2024. The Northern and Central regions, particularly Riyadh, the capital, are home to a significant number of well-established healthcare facilities, including hospitals, research centers, and biotech companies. These regions house some of the country's leading institutions dedicated to the development, research, and application of RNA-based therapies. This concentration of infrastructure plays a critical role in driving the adoption of RNA therapeutics, as it provides access to advanced medical technologies and specialized expertise.

The Northern and Central regions have a central role in the country's healthcare delivery system, making them the focal point for emerging medical technologies. As a result, RNA therapeutics are being integrated into the treatment protocols offered in these regions, providing residents with access to cutting-edge healthcare options. The accessibility of such treatments has made these areas the leading markets for RNA therapeutics in the country.

Key Market Players

Pfizer Scientific Technical Limited Company

Biogen Arabia Limited

Novartis Saudi Arabia

Moderna, Inc.

Tabuk Pharmaceuticals

Report Scope

In this report, the Saudi Arabia RNA Therapeutics Market has been segmented into the following categories, in addition to the industry trends which have also been detailed below:

Saudi Arabia RNA Therapeutics Market, By Product:

Vaccines

Drugs

Others

Saudi Arabia RNA Therapeutics Market, By Indication:

Rare Genetic Diseases/Hereditary Diseases

Infectious Diseases

Others

Saudi Arabia RNA Therapeutics Market, By Region:

Eastern

Western

Northern & Central

Southern

Competitive Landscape

Company Profiles: Detailed analysis of the major companies present in the Saudi Arabia RNA Therapeutics Market.

Available Customizations:

Saudi Arabia RNA Therapeutics Market report with the given market data, Tech Sci Research offers customizations according to a company's specific needs. The following customization options are available for the report:

Company Information

Detailed analysis and profiling of additional market players (up to five).

Contents

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

- 1.1. Market Definition
- 1.2. Scope of the Market
 - 1.2.1. Markets Covered
 - 1.2.2. Years Considered for Study
 - 1.2.3. Key Market Segmentations

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- 2.1. Objective of the Study
- 2.2. Baseline Methodology
- 2.3. Key Industry Partners
- 2.4. Major Association and Secondary Sources
- 2.5. Forecasting Methodology
- 2.6. Data Triangulation & Validation
- 2.7. Assumptions and Limitations

3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 3.1. Overview of the Market
- 3.2. Overview of Key Market Segmentations
- 3.3. Overview of Key Market Players
- 3.4. Overview of Key Regions/Countries
- 3.5. Overview of Market Drivers, Challenges, Trends

4. SAUDI ARABIA RNA THERAPEUTICS MARKET OUTLOOK

- 4.1. Market Size & Forecast
 - 4.1.1. By Value
- 4.2. Market Share & Forecast
 - 4.2.1. By Product (Vaccines, Drugs, Others)
 - 4.2.2. By Indication (Rare Genetic Diseases/Hereditary Diseases, Infectious Diseases, Others)
 - 4.2.3. By Region
 - 4.2.4. By Company
- 4.3. Market Map

- 4.3.1. By Product
- 4.3.2. By Indication
- 4.3.3. By Region

5. EASTERN RNA THERAPEUTICS MARKET OUTLOOK

- 5.1. Market Size & Forecast
 - 5.1.1. By Value
- 5.2. Market Share & Forecast
 - 5.2.1. By Product
 - 5.2.2. By Indication

6. WESTERN RNA THERAPEUTICS MARKET OUTLOOK

- 6.1. Market Size & Forecast
 - 6.1.1. By Value
- 6.2. Market Share & Forecast
 - 6.2.1. By Product
 - 6.2.2. By Indication

7. NORTHERN & CENTRAL RNA THERAPEUTICS MARKET OUTLOOK

- 7.1. Market Size & Forecast
 - 7.1.1. By Value
- 7.2. Market Share & Forecast
 - 7.2.1. By Product
 - 7.2.2. By Indication

8. SOUTHERN RNA THERAPEUTICS MARKET OUTLOOK

- 8.1. Market Size & Forecast
 - 8.1.1. By Value
- 8.2. Market Share & Forecast
 - 8.2.1. By Product
 - 8.2.2. By Indication

9. MARKET DYNAMICS

- 9.1. Drivers

9.2. Challenges

10. MARKET TRENDS & DEVELOPMENTS

10.1. Recent Developments

10.2. Product Launches

10.3. Mergers & Acquisitions

11. POLICY & REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

12. SAUDI ARABIA ECONOMIC PROFILE

13. COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

13.1. Pfizer Scientific Technical Limited Company

13.1.1. Business Overview

13.1.2. Company Snapshot

13.1.3. Products & Services

13.1.4. Financials (In case of listed)

13.1.5. Recent Developments

13.1.6. SWOT Analysis

13.2. Biogen Arabia Limited

13.3. Novartis Saudi Arabia

13.4. Moderna, Inc.

13.5. Tabuk Pharmaceuticals

14. STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

15. ABOUT US & DISCLAIMER

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