

Health Care Services

India

Sector View: **Neutral**

NIFTY-50: **25,324**
October 15, 2025

Diagnostics: Online players continue to toe the line

Diagnostics pricing trends across seven major cities continue to improve, with prominent online players such as Healthians and Redcliffe taking a steep 20-21% price hike in 2QFY26. Even Netmeds has raised prices by 4% qoq in the quarter. On the other hand, barring a few tweaks, pricing of national incumbents as well as other offline players was unchanged. We stay positive on DLPL and METROHL and continue to bake in healthy double-digit organic sales CAGRs over FY2025-28E. Reiterate ADD with unchanged FVs of Rs3,515 and Rs2,155 for DLPL and METROHL, respectively.

Minor pricing adjustments by a few incumbents in 2QFY26

Agilus has lowered prices in Delhi and Kolkata by 3% and 7% qoq, respectively. Thyrocare has also trimmed prices by 1% qoq across seven cities. We note DLPL appears to have experimented a bit with Suburban's pricing over the past six months, with the company now completely rescinding a recent price hike taken in Mumbai and Pune in 1QFY26. Pricing of DLPL (excluding Suburban) as well as other incumbents such as METROHL, Vijaya and Suraksha stayed unchanged across markets. Over the past one year, most larger incumbents, except Thyrocare (+12% yoy), have largely maintained their pricing on KIE's test bouquet. As highlighted at our recent Healthcare Forum, there is a distinct possibility of DLPL and METROHL taking a price hike over the next couple of quarters. Among hospitals and other offline players, Lupin has cut prices marginally in Pune, with other players holding their prices in 2QFY26.

Healthians/Redcliffe have raised prices across cities by 20/21% qoq in 2QFY26

After cutting prices in 4QFY25, Healthians has raised prices by 20% qoq in 2QFY26, reverting to 3QFY25 levels. While Redcliffe raised its prices by ~21% qoq, Netmeds raised its prices by 4% qoq in 2QFY26. After raising prices by 23% over a one-year period, Tata 1mg maintained its pricing in 2QFY26. We highlight its pricing has reverted to March 2022 levels (prior to the significant price cuts). In addition to price hikes, we had highlighted in our recent report ([link](#)) that online players have been significantly pulling back on expenses, indicating a clear emphasis on profitability. This bodes well for the incumbents. Overall, despite taking steep price hikes in 2QFY26, Healthians remains the lowest-priced alternative in all key cities, except Chennai and Hyderabad, where Tata 1mg remains the lowest-priced provider.

Retain ADD on DLPL and METROHL with FVs of Rs3,515 and Rs2,155

Although the intensity of price-led competition has decreased over the past 2.5 years, the pricing differential between listed incumbents and online players stays elevated at ~2X (albeit lower than in the past). While we expect the sheer higher quantum of organized competitors to still restrict a significant volume bounce back, we expect organic test volume growth for DLPL and METROHL to inch up gradually from the current 8-10% yoy. Despite a slower volume ramp-up, we still expect double-digit organic sales CAGRs over FY2025-28E for DLPL and METROHL. We maintain ADD ratings on DLPL and METROHL with unchanged FVs of Rs3,515 and Rs2,155, respectively.

Company data and valuation summary

		Fair Value	P/E (X)	
	Rating	(Rs)	2026E	2027E
Diagnostics				
Dr Lal Pathlabs	ADD	3,515	52.3	44.9
Metropolis Healthcare	ADD	2,155	49.6	40.1

Source: Bloomberg, Company data, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

Prices in this report are based on the market close of October 15, 2025

Quick Numbers

Healthians and Redcliffe have raised prices sharply by 20-21% qoq across seven cities in 2QFY26

Over the past one year, most larger incumbents, except Thyrocare (+12% yoy), have largely maintained their pricing on KIE's test bouquet

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We maintain ADD on DLPL as well as METROHL

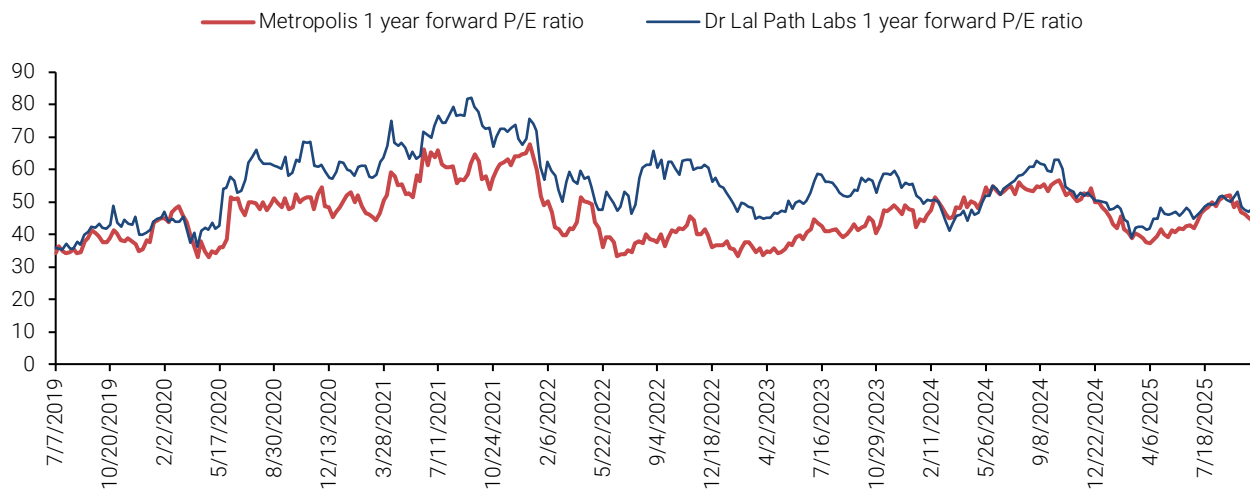
Exhibit 1: Revisions in FVs, March fiscal year-ends (Rs, %)

	CMP (Rs)	Old FV (Rs)	New FV (Rs)	Old rating	New rating	Change in FV (%)	Upside (%)
Diagnostics							
Dr Lal Pathlabs	3,122	3,515	3,515	ADD	ADD	—	13
Metropolis Healthcare	1,942	2,155	2,155	ADD	ADD	—	11

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Compared to a historical 1-year forward P/E premium of 20+%, DLPL's premium over METROHL has narrowed

Exhibit 2: 1-year forward P/E ratios, March fiscal year-ends, 2020-26E (X)



Source: Bloomberg, Kotak Institutional Equities

We value DLPL at Rs3,515 per share

Exhibit 3: DCF valuation, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-50E (Rs mn)

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026E	2027E	2028E	2029E	2030E	2032E	2034E	2036E	2038E	2040E	2042E	2044E	2046E	2048E	2050E
Net sales	20,874	20,169	22,266	24,614	27,725	31,713	35,991	41,156	46,980	60,894	78,307	99,902	126,438	158,675	197,356	240,648	286,568	333,167	378,060
YoY (%)	32.0	(3.4)	10.4	10.5	12.6	14.4	13.5	14.4	14.2	13.8	13.3	12.9	12.4	11.9	11.4	10.1	8.8	7.5	6.2
EBITDA (pre Ind-AS)	4,788	4,334	5,558	6,425	7,174	8,508	9,716	11,112	12,755	16,715	21,730	28,022	35,845	45,460	57,135	70,390	84,681	99,450	113,985
Margin (%)	22.9	21.5	25.0	26.1	25.9	26.8	27.0	27.0	27.2	27.5	27.8	28.1	28.4	28.7	29.0	29.3	29.6	29.9	30.2
Depreciation (Ind-AS adj.)	715	1,083	1,059	1,061	1,145	1,207	1,364	1,475	1,595	1,890	2,273	2,767	3,402	4,145	5,072	6,215	7,592	9,211	11,070
EBIT	4,074	3,251	4,499	5,363	6,029	7,301	8,351	9,637	11,160	14,825	19,458	25,255	32,444	41,316	52,062	64,174	77,089	90,239	102,915
Margin (%)	19.5	16.1	20.2	21.8	21.7	23.0	23.2	23.4	23.8	24.3	24.8	25.3	25.7	26.0	26.4	26.7	26.9	27.1	27.2
EBIT (1-tax)	3,005	2,279	3,224	4,226	4,341	5,184	5,930	7,189	8,325	11,060	14,515	18,841	24,203	30,822	38,838	47,874	57,508	67,318	76,775
Capex	(941)	(365)	(512)	(443)	(700)	(800)	(850)	(864)	(987)	(1,279)	(1,644)	(2,098)	(2,655)	(3,332)	(4,144)	(5,054)	(6,018)	(6,997)	(7,939)
% of revenues (%)	4.5	1.8	2.3	1.8	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Change in WC	146	297	1,238	(782)	402	468	522	330	603	787	1,014	1,293	1,633	1,772	2,121	2,318	2,434	2,441	2,317
FCFF	2,924	3,294	5,010	4,062	5,187	6,059	6,966	8,130	9,537	12,458	16,157	20,803	26,583	33,406	41,887	51,354	61,516	71,974	82,223
Discount factor						0.50	1.50	2.50	3.50	5.50	7.50	9.50	11.50	13.50	15.50	17.50	19.50	21.50	23.50
Discounted free cash						5,738	5,916	6,193	6,516	6,846	7,142	7,396	7,602	7,684	7,750	7,643	7,364	6,931	6,368
WACC (%)	11.5																		
Terminal growth (%)	5.5																		
Discounted free cash flow	169,972																		
Terminal value	111,979																		
Enterprise value	281,951																		
Less: Net debt	(16,768)																		
Equity value	298,719																		
Minority interest	5,283																		
Equity value attributable to parent	293,435																		
No. of shares	84																		
Equity value per share (Rs)	3,514																		

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

We value METROHL at Rs2,155 per share

Exhibit 4: DCF valuation, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-50E (Rs mn)

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026E	2027E	2028E	2029E	2030E	2032E	2034E	2036E	2038E	2040E	2042E	2044E	2046E	2048E	2050E
Net sales	12,283	11,482	12,077	13,312	16,622	18,953	21,603	24,628	27,989	35,819	45,273	56,511	69,659	84,786	101,892	120,891	141,595	163,706	186,028
YoY (%)	23.1	(6.5)	5.2	10.2	24.9	14.0	14.0	14.0	13.7	13.0	12.3	11.6	10.9	10.2	9.5	8.8	8.1	7.4	6.4
EBITDA (pre Ind-AS)	3,040	2,265	2,048	2,136	2,920	3,516	4,111	4,827	5,584	7,397	9,666	12,461	15,847	19,882	24,607	29,558	35,045	41,008	47,158
Margin (%)	24.7	19.7	17.0	16.0	17.6	18.6	19.0	19.6	20.0	20.7	21.4	22.1	22.8	23.5	24.2	24.5	24.8	25.1	25.4
Depreciation (pre Ind-AS)	321	404	438	608	777	839	839	919	958	1,054	1,175	1,327	1,516	1,748	2,027	2,361	2,754	3,212	3,737
EBIT	2,719	1,861	1,610	1,528	2,143	2,677	3,273	3,908	4,626	6,343	8,491	11,133	14,331	18,135	22,580	27,197	32,290	37,796	43,421
Margin (%)	22.1	16.2	13.3	11.5	12.9	14.1	15.1	15.9	16.5	17.7	18.8	19.7	20.6	21.4	22.2	22.5	22.8	23.1	23.3
EBIT (1-tax)	1,948	1,423	1,184	1,165	1,607	2,008	2,454	2,931	3,469	4,757	6,368	8,350	10,748	13,601	16,935	20,398	24,218	28,347	32,566
Capex	(307)	(526)	(638)	(686)	(550)	(500)	(450)	(493)	(560)	(716)	(905)	(1,130)	(1,393)	(1,696)	(2,038)	(2,418)	(2,832)	(3,274)	(3,721)
% of revenues (%)	2.5	4.6	5.3	5.2	3.3	2.6	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Change in WC	262	(235)	17	212	17	(51)	17	353	67	82	99	117	136	156	176	195	211	224	222
FCFF	2,224	1,066	1,001	1,298	1,851	2,295	2,860	3,711	3,935	5,177	6,736	8,664	11,008	13,809	17,100	20,535	24,351	28,509	32,804
Discount factor						0.50	1.50	2.50	3.50	5.50	7.50	9.50	11.50	13.50	15.50	17.50	19.50	21.50	23.50
Discounted free cash						2,173	2,426	2,820	2,680	2,831	2,958	3,054	3,116	3,138	3,120	3,009	2,865	2,693	2,488
WACC (%)	11.6																		
Terminal growth (%)	5.5																		
Discounted free cash flow	68,777																		
Terminal value	43,027																		
Enterprise value	111,805																		
Less: Net debt	59																		
Equity value	111,745																		
Minority interest	403																		
Equity value attributable to parent	111,342																		
No. of shares	52																		
Equity value per share (Rs)	2,156																		

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

Common-sized pricing reveals that, while a few incumbents have cut prices, select online players have raised prices qoq in 2QFY26

Exhibit 5: Trend of average test pricing across different players, March fiscal year-ends, 2023-26E (%)

	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25	Sep-25	qoq change
Common size pricing across 7 major cities (%)																
Dr Lal	100	101	101	101	101	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	→
Metropolis	100	100	100	100	101	100	102	100	105	105	105	105	104	104	104	→
Agilus	100	99	100	99	99	99	99	99	106	106	106	106	106	107	105	↓
Thyrocare	100	100	100	100	99	103	104	108	108	113	117	117	117	133	132	↓
Vijaya	100	102	102	102	104	107	107	107	107	107	107	107	107	109	109	→
Suburban	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	104	100	↓
Suraksha	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	102	102	96	96	96	96	96	96	→
Tenet	100	107	107	107	107	99	99	99	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	→
Apollo Diagnostics	100	68	105	52	51	54	110	110	110	110	109	110	110	110	110	→
Max Lab	100	99	99	99	99	104	104	104	104	104	110	104	104	106	106	→
Aster DM	100	115	100	99	99	111	110	120	116	116	116	116	116	120	120	→
Medplus	100	100	116	116	116	109	109	114	116	116	116	116	116	116	115	→
Lupin	100	100	100	100	100	92	93	100	112	106	106	106	106	106	105	↓
Medanta						100	100	100	100	105	105	105	105	105	105	→
PharmEasy	100	100	111	105	105	117	109	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	→
Tata 1mg	100	94	68	65	84	84	88	80	81	80	80	84	94	98	98	→
Netmeds	100	100	100	100	100	83	79	101	107	107	119	120	120	106	111	↑
Healthians	100	66	67	64	64	70	73	77	61	64	65	65	53	53	64	↑
Redcliffe	100	100	118	130	139	128	134	131	128	128	130	130	131	131	160	↑
MediBuddy	100	100	100	121	113	113	123	123	123	170	170	170	170	178	178	→
mFine	100	98	136	276	234	234	246	266	240	237	252	252	253	246	246	→
Orange						100	89	92	93	93	98	98	84	84	84	→

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Pricing trends of various diagnostics companies for KIE's sample test bouquet across seven major cities

Exhibit 6: Trend of average test pricing across different players, March fiscal year-ends, 2023-26E (Rs, %)

	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25	Sep-25	% yoy	% qoq
Average pricing across 7 major cities (Rs)																	
Dr Lal	4,961	4,991	4,991	4,991	5,036	5,191	5,191	5,191	5,191	5,191	5,191	5,191	5,191	5,191	5,191	—	—
Metropolis	5,147	5,136	5,136	5,163	5,214	5,129	5,259	5,139	5,412	5,412	5,412	5,381	5,366	5,366	5,366	(1)	—
Agilus	5,223	5,183	5,214	5,181	5,191	5,188	5,160	5,176	5,524	5,519	5,519	5,519	5,519	5,578	5,490	(1)	(2)
Thyrocare	3,405	3,405	3,405	3,405	3,365	3,524	3,525	3,685	3,685	3,840	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,517	4,480	12	(1)
Vijaya	5,620	5,750	5,750	5,750	5,820	6,010	6,010	6,010	6,010	6,020	6,020	6,020	6,020	6,110	6,110	1	—
Suburban	5,645	5,645	5,645	5,645	5,645	5,645	5,645	5,645	5,645	5,645	5,645	5,645	5,645	5,875	5,645	—	(4)
Suraksha	7,335	7,335	7,335	7,335	7,335	7,335	7,335	7,475	7,475	7,025	7,025	7,025	7,025	7,025	7,025	—	—
Tenet	5,690	6,060	6,060	6,060	6,060	5,625	5,625	5,625	5,765	5,765	5,765	5,765	5,765	5,765	5,765	—	—
Apollo Diagnostics	5,445	3,720	5,723	2,850	2,800	2,952	5,977	5,977	5,977	5,977	5,953	5,977	5,977	5,977	5,977	0	—
Max Lab	5,150	5,110	5,110	5,110	5,110	5,370	5,370	5,370	5,370	5,370	5,690	5,370	5,370	5,450	5,450	(4)	—
Aster DM	3,585	4,140	3,583	3,543	3,543	3,990	3,940	4,307	4,173	4,173	4,173	4,173	4,173	4,287	4,287	3	—
Medplus	2,980	2,980	3,465	3,465	3,465	3,235	3,235	3,395	3,445	3,445	3,445	3,445	3,445	3,445	3,441	(0)	(0)
Lupin	4,850	4,850	4,850	4,850	4,850	4,473	4,500	4,850	5,433	5,160	5,160	5,143	5,143	5,143	5,110	(1)	(1)
Medanta						4,980	4,980	4,980	5,000	5,240	5,240	5,240	5,240	5,240	5,240	—	—
PharmEasy	2,775	2,775	3,075	2,925	2,925	3,246	3,030	2,830	2,830	2,830	2,830	2,830	2,830	2,830	2,823	(0)	(0)
Tata 1mg	2,997	2,807	2,043	1,943	2,503	2,523	2,623	2,403	2,431	2,384	2,399	2,527	2,814	2,939	2,933	22	(0)
Netmeds	2,475	2,475	2,475	2,475	2,475	2,047	1,962	2,493	2,648	2,648	2,936	2,968	2,968	2,635	2,741	(7)	4
Healthians	4,100	2,700	2,740	2,643	2,643	2,865	2,975	3,166	2,520	2,607	2,660	2,660	2,190	2,190	2,630	(1)	20
Redcliffe	2,050	2,057	2,410	2,660	2,840	2,615	2,743	2,689	2,617	2,617	2,667	2,667	2,696	2,696	3,271	23	21
MediBuddy	2,600	2,600	2,600	3,150	2,950	2,950	3,200	3,200	4,430	4,430	4,430	4,430	4,640	4,639		5	(0)
mFine	1,744	1,715	2,375	4,820	4,090	4,090	4,290	4,640	4,190	4,140	4,390	4,390	4,416	4,291	4,290	(2)	(0)
Orange						4,931	4,383	4,523	4,600	4,600	4,828	4,828	4,148	4,148	4,148	(14)	—

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

All incumbents, with the exception of Agilus, Suburban and Thyrocare, largely kept their pricing unchanged in 2QFY26

Exhibit 7: Qoq pricing change of diagnostic chains from Jun 2025 to Sep 2025, March fiscal year-ends, 2025-26E (%)

	Dr Lal	Metropolis	Agilus	Thyrocare	Suburban	Vijaya	Suraksha	Tenet
Diagnostic chains (%)								
Mumbai	—	—	—	(1)	(3)	NA	NA	NA
Delhi NCR	—	—	(3)	(1)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Chennai	—	—	—	(1)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kolkata	—	—	(7)	(1)	NA	NA	—	NA
Hyderabad	—	—	—	(1)	NA	—	NA	—
Bengaluru	—	—	—	(1)	NA	NA	NA	—
Pune	—	—	—	(1)	(5)	NA	NA	NA

Notes:

(a) NA – cities where the diagnostic company has nil or minimal presence.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

While Healthians, Redcliffe and Netmeds have raised prices, other online players kept their pricing unchanged in 2QFY26

Exhibit 8: Qoq pricing change of online players from Jun 2025 to Sep 2025, March fiscal year-ends, 2025-26E (%)

	PharmEasy	Tata 1mg	Netmeds	Healthians	Redcliffe	MediBuddy	MFine	Orange
Online players (%)								
Mumbai	(0)	(0)	4	20	22	(0)	(0)	—
Delhi NCR	(0)	0	2	20	26	(0)	(0)	—
Chennai	(0)	(0)	8	20	15	(0)	—	NA
Kolkata	(0)	(0)	NA	20	21	(0)	—	NA
Hyderabad	(0)	(0)	2	20	18	(0)	(0)	—
Bengaluru	(0)	(0)	4	20	25	(0)	(0)	—
Pune	(0)	(0)	NA	20	23	(0)	(0)	NA

Notes:

(a) NA – cities where the diagnostic company has nil or minimal presence.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

After volatile pricing in consecutive quarters in FY2023 and 1HFY24, APHS has broadly maintained its pricing over the past 24 months

Exhibit 9: Qoq pricing change of hospitals and newer offline players from Jun 2025 to Sep 2025, March fiscal year-ends, 2025-26E (%)

	Apollo Diagnostics	Aster DM	Max Lab	Lupin	Medplus	Medanta
Hospitals and offline players (%)						
Mumbai	NA	NA	NA	—	NA	NA
Delhi NCR	NA	NA	—	NA	NA	—
Chennai	—	—	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kolkata	NA	NA	NA	—	NA	NA
Hyderabad	—	—	NA	NA	(0)	NA
Bengaluru	—	—	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pune	NA	NA	NA	(2)	NA	NA

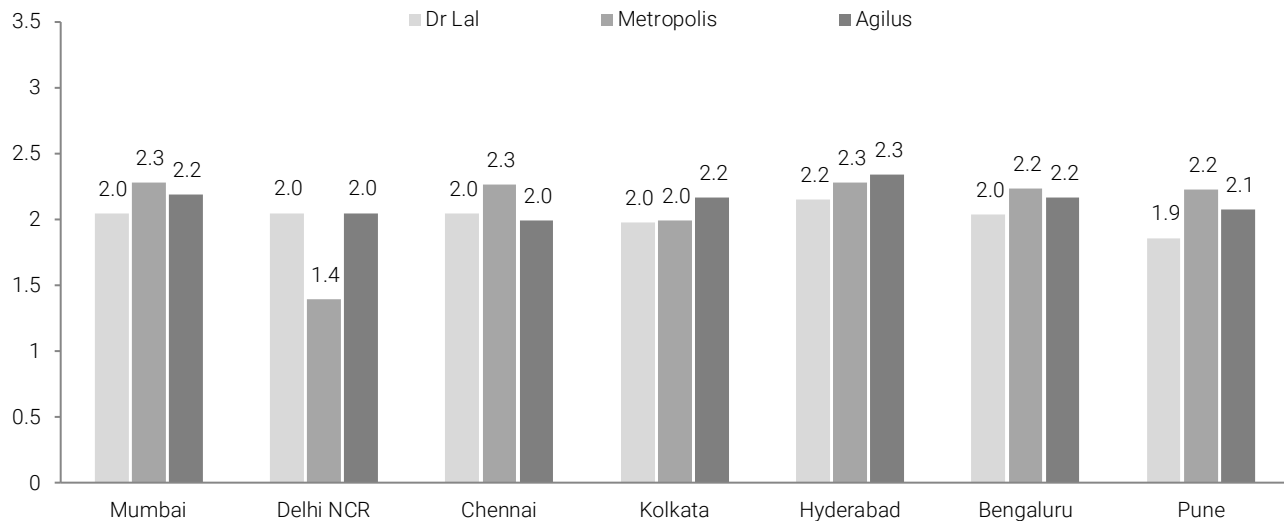
Notes:

(a) NA – cities where the diagnostic company has nil or minimal presence.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Average pricing of incumbents stays ~2X higher than the cheapest organized alternative across seven major cities

Exhibit 10: Average premium for DLPL, Metropolis and Agilus over the cheapest organized competitor, March fiscal year-end, 2026E (X)



Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Mumbai

Pricing comparison for a bouquet of routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Mumbai

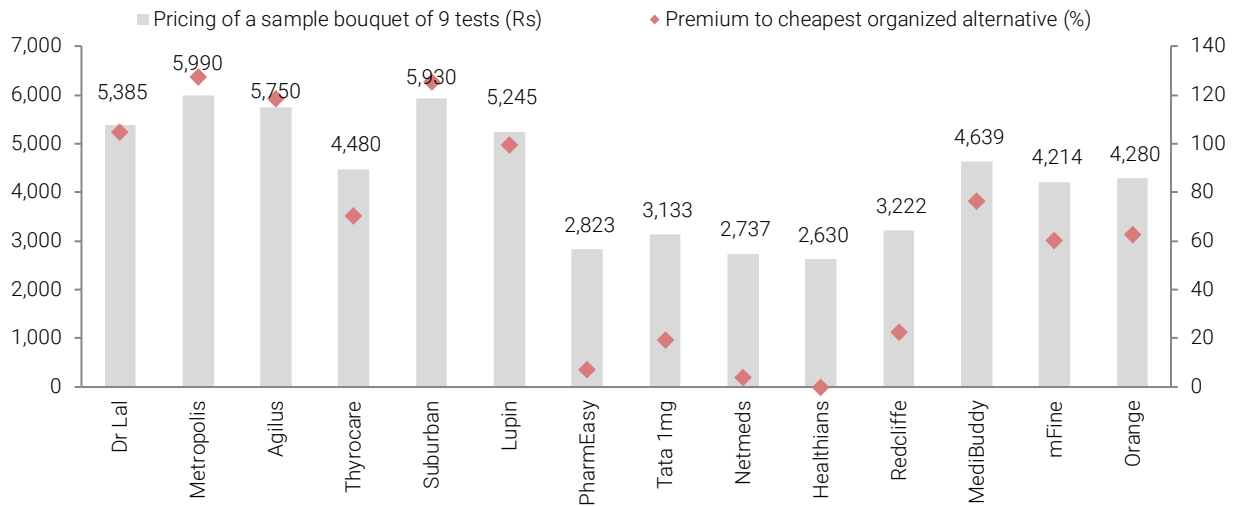
Exhibit 11: Test prices, Sep 2025 (Rs)

Test type	Test	Dr Lal	Metropolis	Agilus	Thyrocare	Suburban	Lupin	PharmEasy	Tata 1mg	Netmeds	Healthians	Redcliffe	MediBuddy	mFine	Orange
Routine	Glucose fasting	85	90	90	97	110	85	119	89	63	75	99	156	90	120
	Calcium	220	270	250	237	260	220	219	153	196	259	366	200	240	
	SGOT	220	270	230	216	240	220	175	189	162	149	269	200	200	220
	SGPT	220	270	250	225	240	220	175	189	162	149	270	200	200	220
	HbA1c	550	640	620	368	620	500	449	379	299	304	399	524	425	550
Semi-specialized	Thyroid profile (T3, T4, TSH)	550	600	580	549	810	550	399	490	299	383	429	576	449	450
	Lipid profile basic	840	800	830	590	790	750	399	399	300	338	399	734	650	700
	Vitamin B12	1,200	1,250	1,200	999	1,160	1,200	489	680	599	614	649	734	800	790
	Vitamin D 25-Hydroxy	1,500	1,800	1,700	1,199	1,700	1,500	399	499	700	422	449	1,149	1,200	990
Specialized	Pancreatic cancer marker	1,500	1,650	1,415	1,342	1,440	1,100	749	1,439	750	99	1,449	1,785	1,200	2,000
	HBV DNA load	7,100	7,200	4,300	6,859	6,030	6,000	6,589	6,299	3,150	1,999	5,200	4,000	6,000	8,200

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Comparison of aggregate prices of a sample bouquet of 9 routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Mumbai

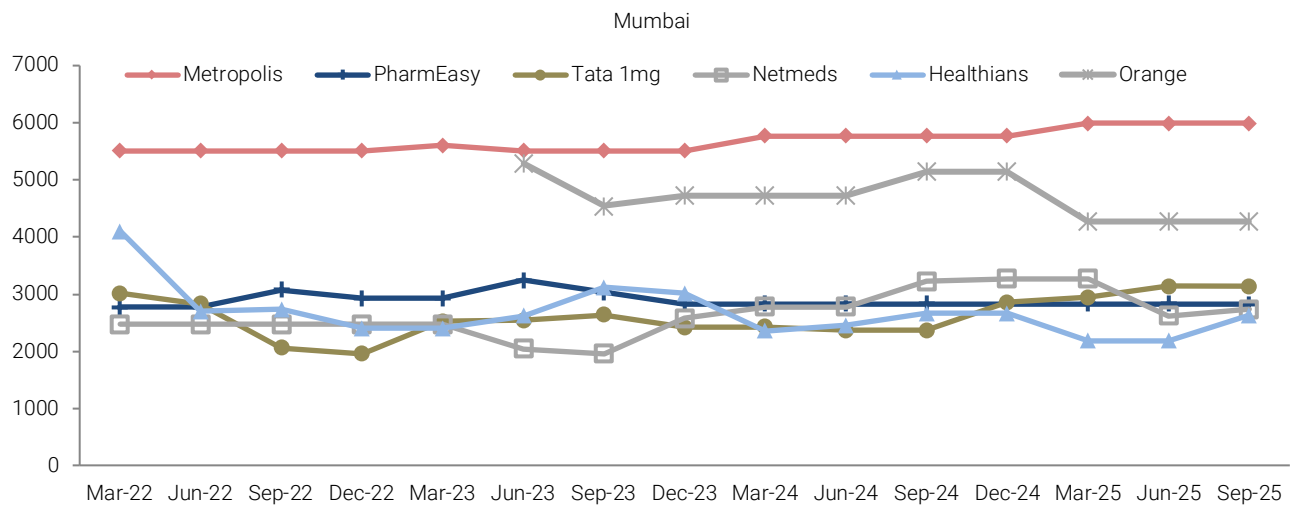
Exhibit 12: Pricing and premium of various players over cheapest alternative, Sep 2025 (Rs, %)



Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Pricing trends of select few players in Mumbai over the past three and a half years

Exhibit 13: Test pricing trend for different players, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-26E (Rs)



Notes:

(a) We have not accounted for Tata 1mg's limited period offer, unveiled in May 2022.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Delhi NCR

Pricing comparison for a bouquet of routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Delhi NCR

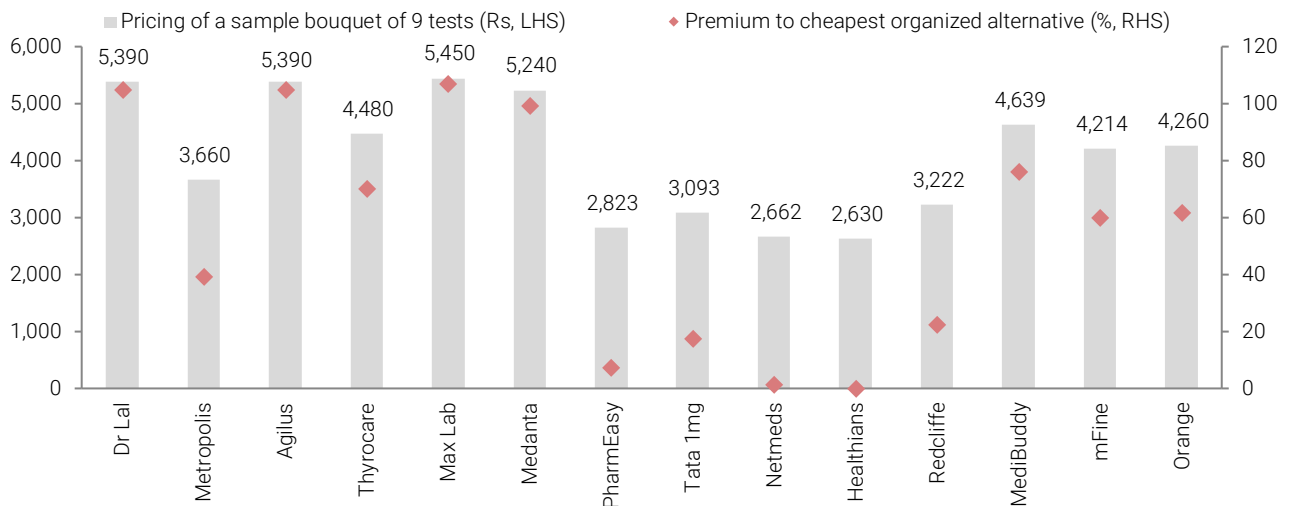
Exhibit 14: Test prices, Sep 2025 (Rs)

Test type	Test	Dr Lal	Metropolis	Agilus	Thyrocare	Max Lab	Medanta	PharmEasy	Tata 1mg	Netmeds	Healthians	Redcliffe	MediBuddy	mFine	Orange
Routine	Glucose fasting	80	70	80	97	80	80	119	79	63	75	99	156	90	100
	Calcium	190	140	190	237	190	180	219	189	125	196	259	366	200	150
	SGOT	190	140	190	216	190	180	175	179	139	149	269	200	200	180
	SGPT	190	160	190	225	190	180	175	179	139	149	270	200	200	150
	HbA1c	440	400	440	368	450	450	449	399	299	304	349	524	425	440
Semi-specialized	Thyroid profile (T3, T4, TSH)	550	450	550	549	550	550	399	490	299	383	429	576	449	450
	Lipid profile basic	1,000	400	1,000	590	1,000	920	399	399	299	338	399	734	650	600
	Vitamin B12	1,200	1,000	1,200	999	1,200	1,150	489	680	599	614	649	734	800	790
	Vitamin D 25-Hydroxy	1,550	900	1,550	1,199	1,600	1,550	399	499	700	422	499	1,149	1,200	1,400
Specialized	Pancreatic cancer marker	1,500	1,400	1,700	1,342	1,500	850	749	1,349	750	99	1,349	1,785	1,200	2,000
	HBV DNA load	8,100	3,000	4,700	6,859	7,000	7,000	6,589	2,700	3,150	1,999	5,200	4,000	6,000	8,200

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Comparison of aggregate prices of a sample bouquet of 9 routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Delhi NCR

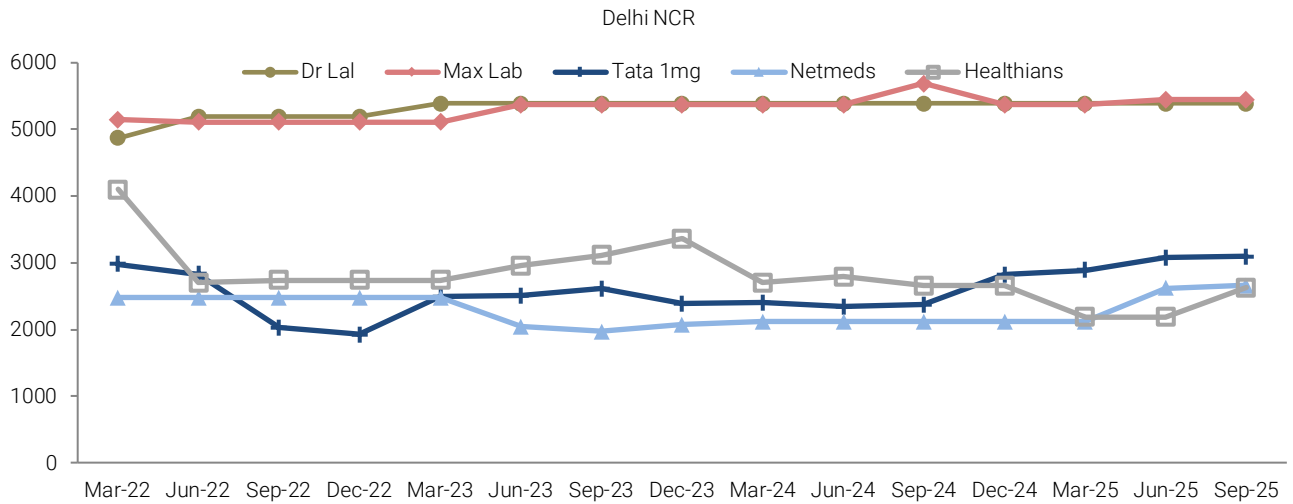
Exhibit 15: Pricing and premium of various players over cheapest alternative, Sep 2025 (Rs, %)



Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Pricing trends of select few players in Delhi NCR over the past three and a half years

Exhibit 16: Test pricing trend for different players, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-26E (Rs)



Notes:

(a) We have not accounted for Tata 1mg's limited period offer, unveiled in May 2022.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Chennai

Pricing comparison for a bouquet of routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Chennai

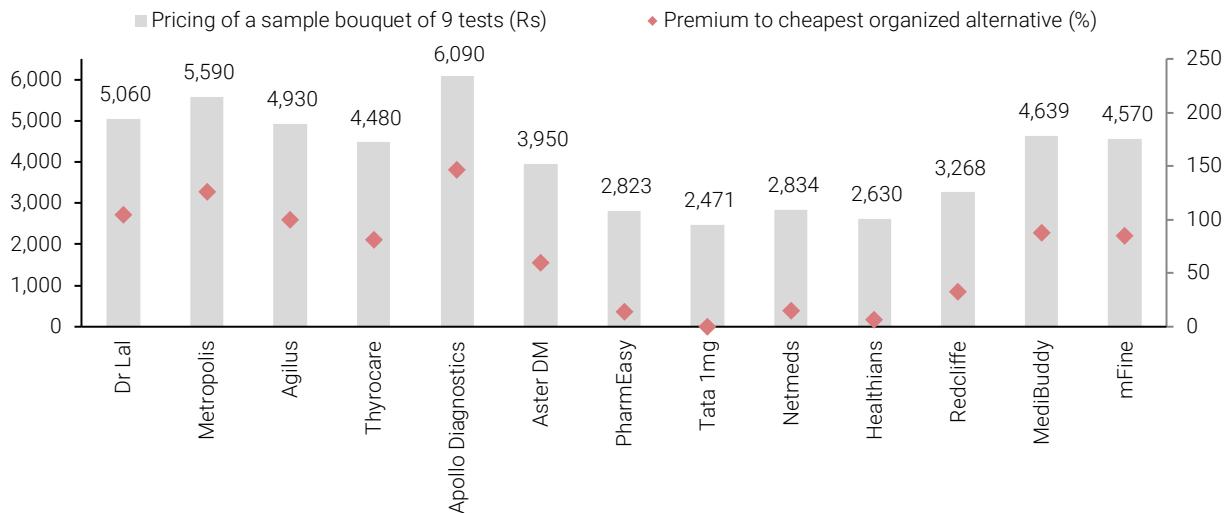
Exhibit 17: Test prices, Sep 2025 (Rs)

Test type	Test	Dr Lal	Metropolis	Agilus	Thyrocare	Apollo Diagnostics	Aster DM	PharmEasy	Tata 1mg	Netmeds	Healthians	Redcliffe	MediBuddy	mFine
Routine	Glucose fasting	40	90	75	97	80	30	119	80	99	75	99	156	40
	Calcium	190	260	220	237	250	120	219	219	199	196	259	366	200
	SGOT	190	230	165	216	240	110	175	210	169	149	269	200	130
	SGPT	190	240	165	225	240	110	175	179	170	149	270	200	150
	HbA1c	350	540	500	368	610	350	449	368	299	304	425	524	610
Semi-specialized	Thyroid profile (T3, T4, TSH)	350	640	580	549	620	250	399	289	299	383	449	576	700
	Lipid profile basic	1,000	680	525	590	800	380	399	349	300	338	449	734	650
	Vitamin B12	1,200	1,260	1,100	999	1,350	800	489	389	599	614	549	734	890
	Vitamin D 25-Hydroxy	1,550	1,650	1,600	1,199	1,900	1,800	399	388	700	422	499	1,149	1,200
Specialized	Pancreatic cancer marker	1,500	1,450	1,700	1,342	1,650	1,600	749	1,108	750	99	1,100	1,785	1,330
	HBV DNA load	8,100	6,600	4,700	6,859	7,600	5,750	6,589	4,759	3,150	1,999	5,200	4,000	4,500

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Comparison of aggregate prices of a sample bouquet of 9 routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Chennai

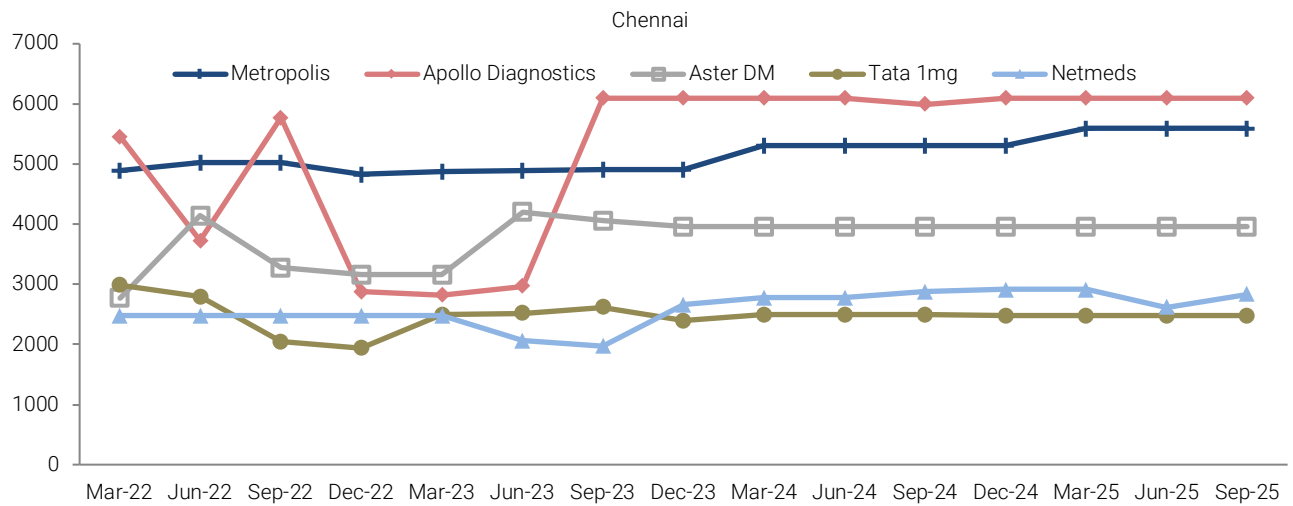
Exhibit 18: Pricing and premium of various players over cheapest alternative, Sep 2025 (Rs, %)



Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Pricing trends of select few players in Chennai over the past three and a half years

Exhibit 19: Test pricing trend for different players, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-26E (Rs)



Notes:

(a) We have not accounted for Tata 1mg's limited period offer, unveiled in May 2022.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Kolkata

Pricing comparison for a bouquet of routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Kolkata

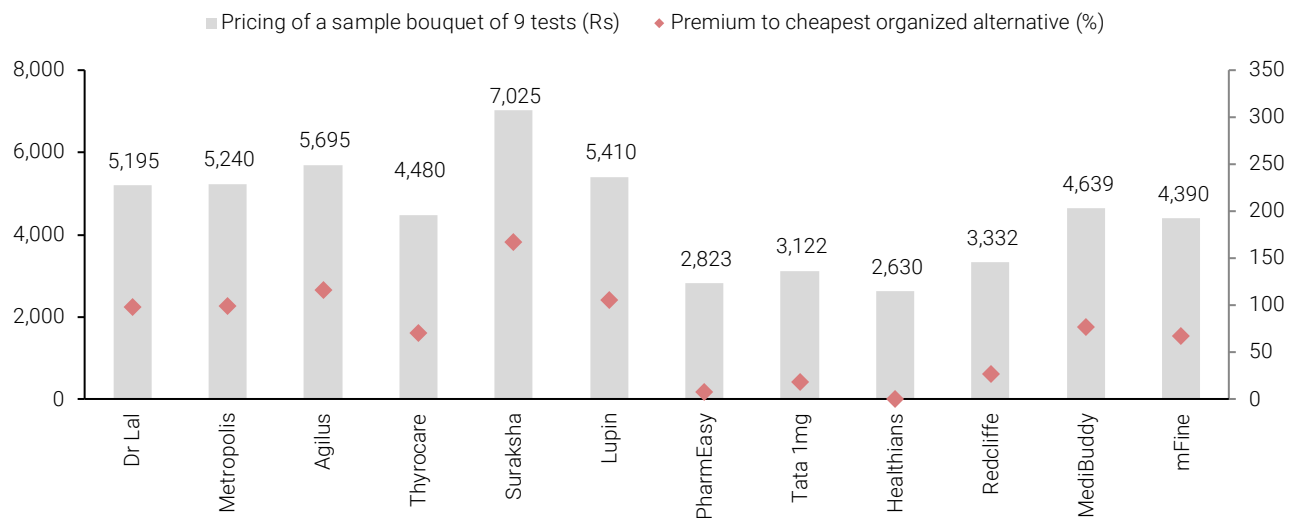
Exhibit 20: Test prices, Sep 2025 (Rs)

		Dr Lal	Metropolis	Agilus	Thyrocare	Suraksha	Lupin	PharmEasy	Tata 1mg	Healthians	Redcliffe	MediBuddy	mFine
Test type	Test												
Routine	Glucose fasting	85	70	85	97	145	70	119	79	75	99	156	90
	Calcium	170	250	190	237	300	170	219	159	196	259	366	200
	SGOT	210	180	300	216	230	160	175	189	149	269	200	200
	SGPT	210	190	300	225	250	180	175	189	149	270	200	200
	HbA1c	450	550	500	368	700	480	449	329	304	389	524	550
Semi-specialized	Thyroid profile (T3, T4, TSH)	570	550	570	549	1,100	550	399	490	383	449	576	500
	Lipid profile basic	1,000	700	1,000	590	1,200	1,300	399	359	338	399	734	650
	Vitamin B12	1,100	1,200	1,350	999	1,300	1,000	489	679	614	649	734	800
	Vitamin D 25-Hydroxy	1,400	1,550	1,400	1,199	1,800	1,500	399	649	422	549	1,149	1,200
Specialized	Pancreatic cancer marker	1,500	1,500	1,700	1,342	1,650	1,100	749	1,349	99	1,229	1,785	1,200
	HBV DNA load	7,900	4,900	4,700	6,859	4,800	6,000	6,589	4,899	1,999	4,900	4,000	6,000

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Comparison of aggregate prices of a sample bouquet of 9 routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Kolkata

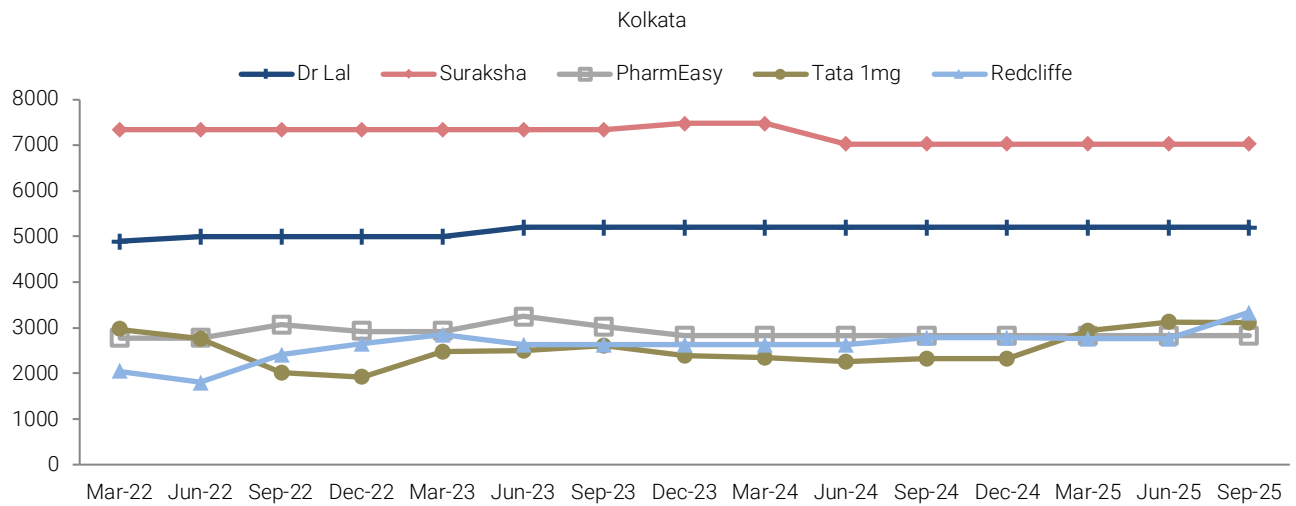
Exhibit 21: Pricing and premium of various players over cheapest alternative, Sep 2025 (Rs, %)



Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Pricing trends of select few players in Kolkata over the past three and a half years

Exhibit 22: Test pricing trend for different players, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-26E (Rs)



Notes:

(a) We have not accounted for Tata 1mg's limited period offer, unveiled in May 2022.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Hyderabad

Pricing comparison for a bouquet of routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Hyderabad

Exhibit 23: Test prices, Sep 2025 (Rs)

Test type	Test	Dr Lal	Metropolis	Agilus	Thyrocare	Apollo Diagnostics	Aster DM	Medplus	Vijaya	Tenet	PharmEasy	Tata 1mg	Netmeds	Healthians	Redcliffe	MediBuddy	mFine	Orange
Routine	Glucose fasting	40	70	90	97	80	60	70	120	130	119	80	63	75	99	156	90	120
	Calcium	190	200	210	237	250	160	160	300	320	219	219	153	196	259	366	200	190
	SGOT	190	220	200	216	240	160	130	240	260	175	210	162	149	269	200	200	180
	SGPT	190	220	200	225	240	160	130	240	250	175	179	162	149	270	200	200	180
	HbA1c	350	550	520	368	610	350	290	600	590	449	379	299	304	425	524	425	500
Semi-specialized	Thyroid profile (T3, T4, TSH)	350	550	580	549	620	250	325	670	640	399	298	299	383	449	576	449	450
	Lipid profile basic	1,000	800	600	590	800	320	340	690	690	399	319	300	338	399	734	650	650
	Vitamin B12	1,200	1,200	1,350	999	1,350	700	898	1,350	1,440	489	359	599	614	499	734	800	790
	Vitamin D 25-Hydroxy	1,550	1,550	1,750	1,199	1,800	1,800	1,098	1,900	1,990	399	308	700	422	449	1,149	1,200	990
Specialized	Pancreatic cancer marker	1,500	1,420	1,700	1,342	1,650	1,600	720	1,200	1,380	749	1,430	750	99	1,108	1,785	1,200	2,000
	HBV DNA load	8,100	6,970	4,700	6,859	7,600	5,750	3,040	7,200	6,400	6,589	7,700	3,150	1,999	5,200	4,000	6,000	8,200

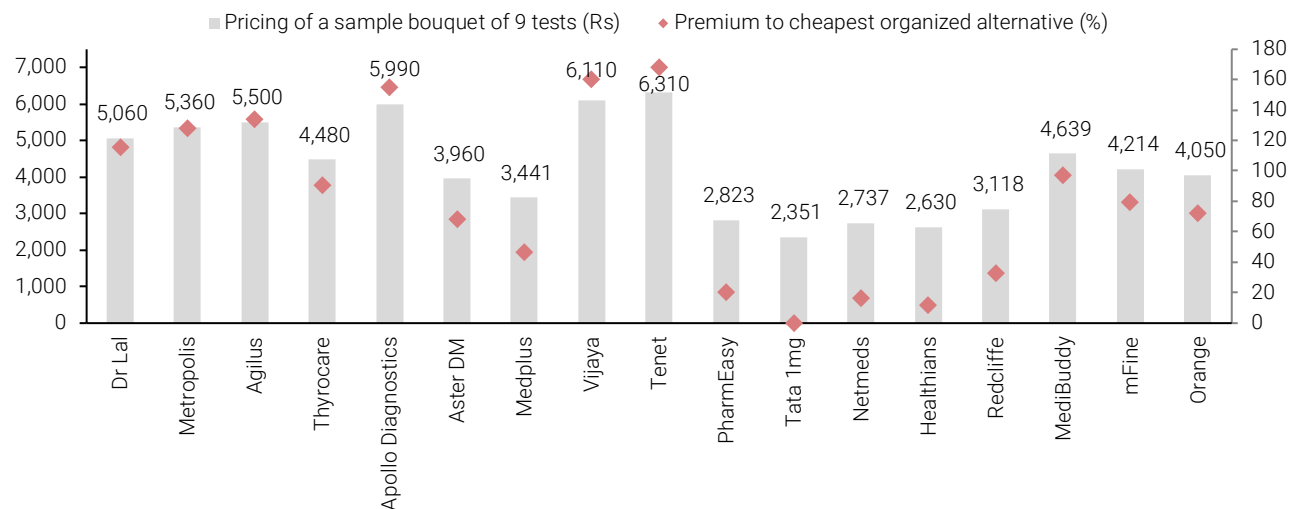
Notes:

(a) We have taken 50% discount for MedPlus assuming all patients subscribe to the MedPlus Advantage Membership.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Comparison of aggregate prices of a sample bouquet of 9 routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Hyderabad

Exhibit 24: Pricing and premium of various players over cheapest alternative, Sep 2025 (Rs, %)



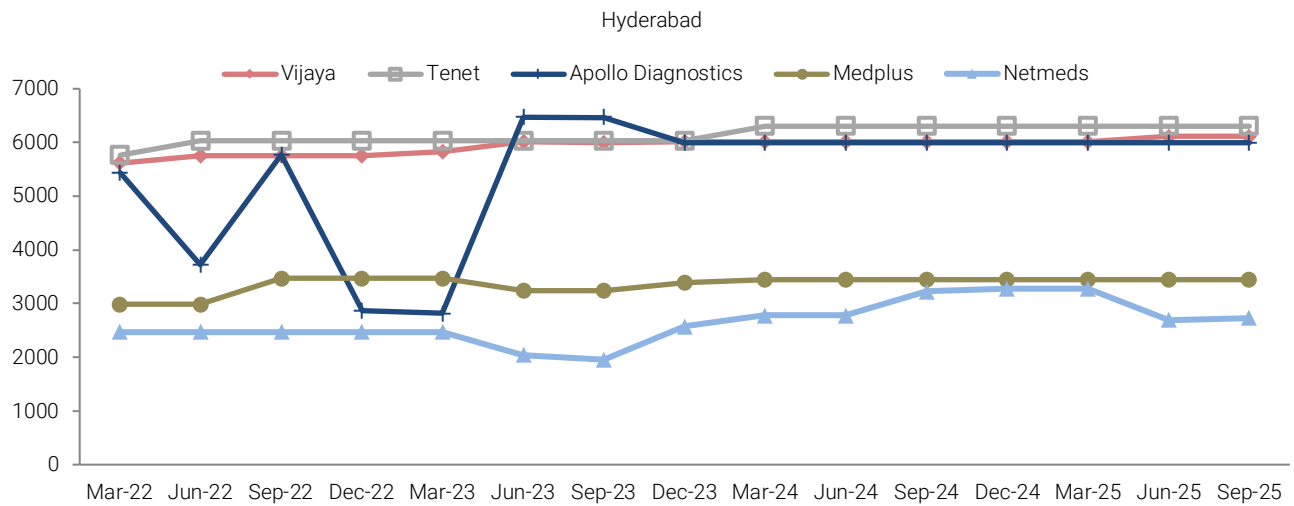
Notes:

(a) We have taken 50% discount for MedPlus assuming all patients subscribe to the MedPlus Advantage Membership.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Pricing trends of select few players in Hyderabad over the past three and a half years

Exhibit 25: Test pricing trend for different players, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-26E (Rs)



Notes:

- (a) We have not accounted for Tata 1mg's limited period offer, unveiled in May 2022.
- (b) We have taken 50% discount for MedPlus assuming all patients subscribe to the MedPlus Advantage Membership.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Bengaluru

Pricing comparison for a bouquet of routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Bengaluru

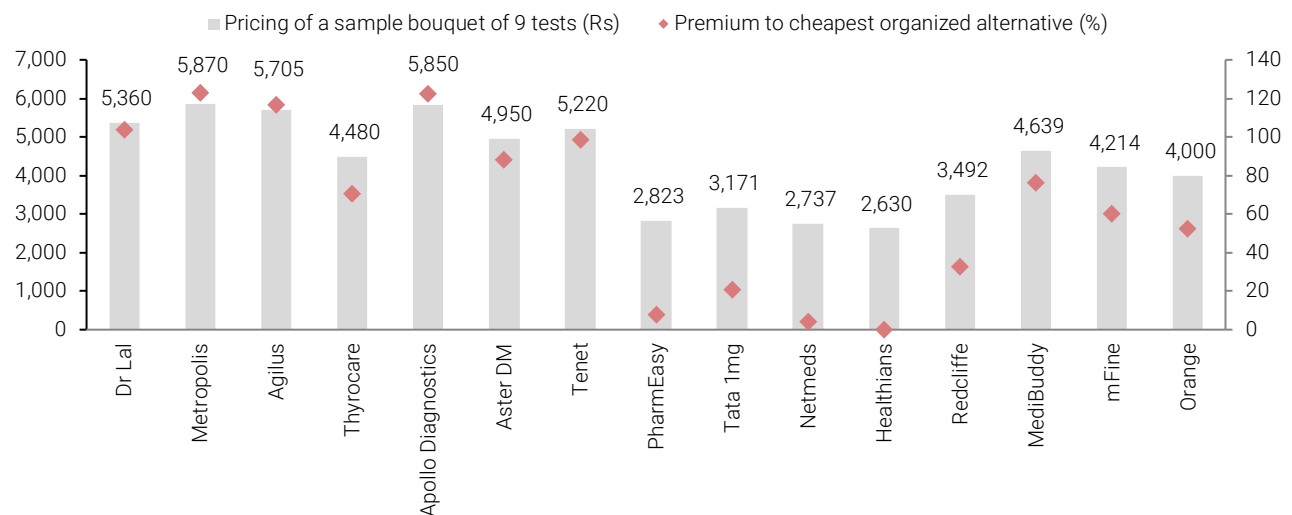
Exhibit 26: Test prices, Sep 2025 (Rs)

Test type	Test	Dr Lal	Metropolis	Agilus	Thyrocare	Apollo Diagnostics	Aster DM	Tenet	PharmEasy	Tata 1mg	Netmeds	Healthians	Redcliffe	MediBuddy	mFine	Orange
Routine	Glucose fasting	50	80	80	97	80	60	80	119	69	63	75	99	156	90	180
	Calcium	190	270	255	237	240	180	250	219	219	153	196	259	366	200	200
	SGOT	190	200	220	216	190	180	170	175	189	162	149	269	200	200	180
	SGPT	190	210	220	225	190	180	170	175	199	162	149	270	200	200	220
	HbA1c	440	700	600	368	610	500	700	449	329	299	304	399	524	425	490
Semi-specialized	Thyroid profile (T3, T4, TSH)	550	600	580	549	620	550	550	399	439	299	383	449	576	449	400
	Lipid profile basic	1,000	680	650	590	720	650	600	399	399	300	338	449	734	650	550
	Vitamin B12	1,200	1,350	1,350	999	1,300	1,150	1,100	489	679	599	614	699	734	800	790
	Vitamin D 25-Hydroxy	1,550	1,780	1,750	1,199	1,900	1,500	1,600	399	649	700	422	599	1,149	1,200	990
Specialized	Pancreatic cancer marker	1,500	1,760	1,700	1,342	1,650	1,600	1,600	749	1,509	750	99	1,199	1,785	1,200	2,000
	HBV DNA load	8,100	7,550	4,700	6,859	7,600	5,750	7,200	6,589	6,119	3,150	1,999	4,749	4,000	6,000	8,200

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Comparison of aggregate prices of a sample bouquet of 9 routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Bengaluru

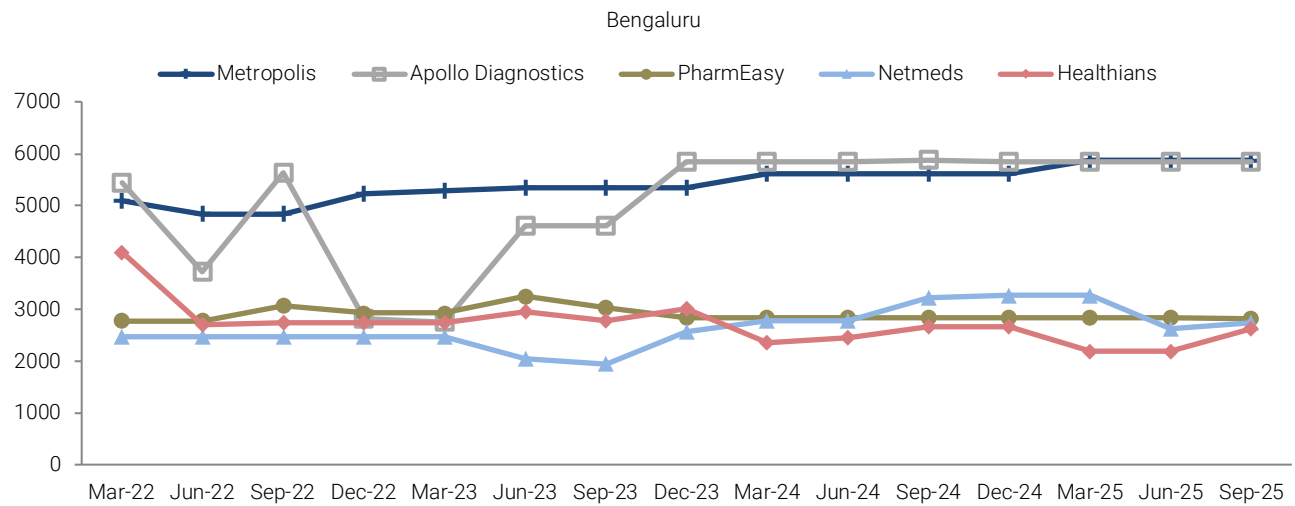
Exhibit 27: Pricing and premium of various players over cheapest alternative, Sep 2025 (Rs, %)



Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Pricing trends of select few players in Bengaluru over the past three and a half years

Exhibit 28: Test pricing trend for different players, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-26E (Rs)



Notes:

(a) We have not accounted for Tata 1mg's limited period offer, unveiled in May 2022.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Pune

Pricing comparison for a bouquet of routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Pune

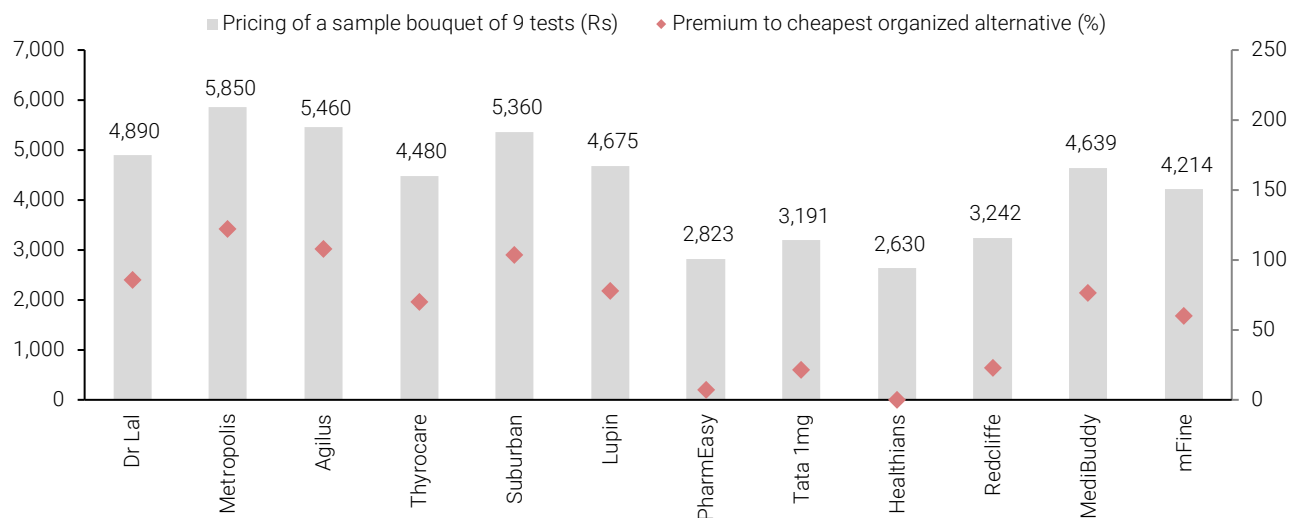
Exhibit 29: Test prices, Sep 2025 (Rs)

Test type	Test	Dr Lal	Metropolis	Agilus	Thyrocare	Suburban	Lupin	PharmEasy	Tata 1mg	Healthians	Redcliffe	MediBuddy	mFine
Routine	Glucose fasting	80	80	80	97	80	70	119	79	75	99	156	90
	Calcium	190	250	220	237	220	190	219	219	196	259	366	200
	SGOT	200	230	200	216	150	200	175	189	149	269	200	200
	SGPT	200	230	210	225	200	190	175	189	149	270	200	200
	HbA1c	440	560	450	368	550	500	449	329	304	399	524	425
Semi-specialized	Thyroid profile (T3, T4, TSH)	550	680	580	549	790	550	399	459	383	449	576	449
	Lipid profile basic	780	830	770	590	770	625	399	399	338	399	734	650
	Vitamin B12	1,200	1,090	1,350	999	1,100	1,100	489	679	614	599	734	800
	Vitamin D 25-Hydroxy	1,250	1,900	1,600	1,199	1,500	1,250	399	649	422	499	1,149	1,200
Specialized	Pancreatic cancer marker	1,500	1,490	1,700	1,342	1,420	1,100	749	1,239	99	1,179	1,785	1,200
	HBV DNA load	8,100	8,160	4,700	6,859	5,980	6,000	6,589	5,199	1,999	5,200	4,000	6,000

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Comparison of aggregate prices of a sample bouquet of 9 routine, semi-specialized and specialized tests in Pune

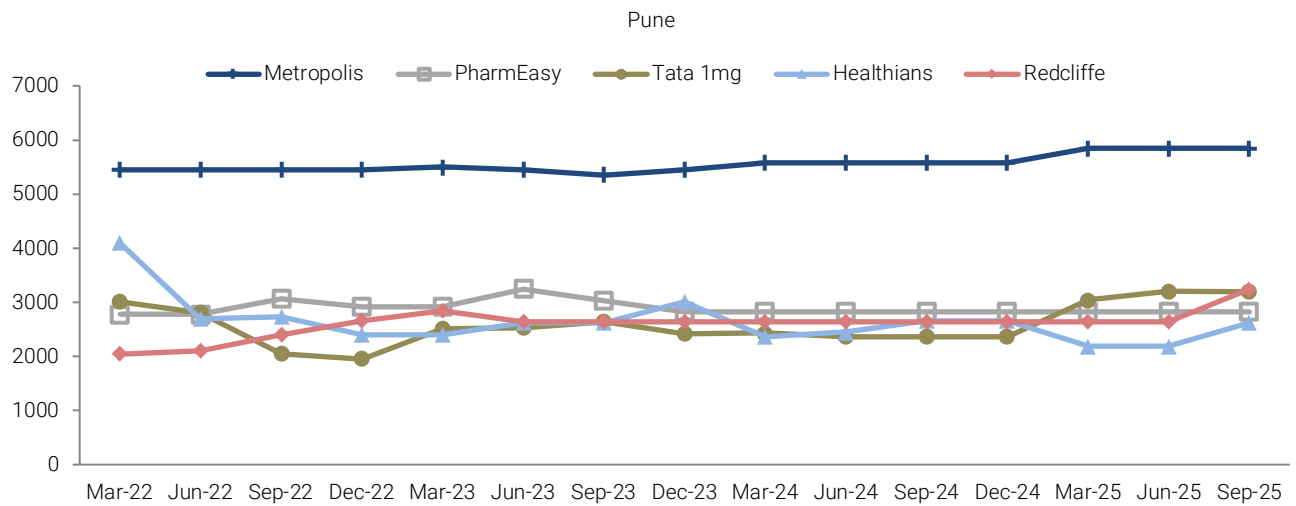
Exhibit 30: Pricing and premium of various players over cheapest alternative, Sep 2025 (Rs, %)



Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

Pricing trends of select few players in Pune over the past three and a half years

Exhibit 31: Test pricing trend for different players, March fiscal year-ends, 2022-26E (Rs)



Notes:

(a) We have not accounted for Tata 1mg's limited period offer, unveiled in May 2022.

Source: Companies, Kotak Institutional Equities

We forecast ~14% sales/EBITDA/EPS CAGRs each for DLPL over FY2025-28E

Exhibit 32: DLPL, summary financials, March fiscal year-ends, 2019-28E (Rs mn)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026E	2027E	2028E
Net revenues	12,034	13,304	15,813	20,874	20,169	22,266	24,614	27,725	31,713	35,991
Gross profit	9,410	10,317	11,840	15,851	15,697	17,752	19,799	22,347	25,593	29,117
EBITDA	2,936	3,436	4,363	5,608	4,899	6,093	6,955	7,747	9,127	10,384
Depreciation & amortisation	(382)	(728)	(772)	(1,081)	(1,502)	(1,436)	(1,419)	(1,555)	(1,825)	(2,219)
EBIT	2,554	2,708	3,591	4,527	3,397	4,657	5,536	6,191	7,301	8,164
Net interest income	452	397	353	222	42	398	711	828	1,010	1,216
Profit before tax	3,006	3,105	3,944	4,749	3,439	5,055	6,247	7,019	8,311	9,380
Tax and deferred tax	(1,001)	(829)	(979)	(1,246)	(1,028)	(1,432)	(1,325)	(1,965)	(2,410)	(2,720)
Less: minority interest	(13)	(17)	(49)	(55)	(22)	(46)	(51)	(70)	(100)	(100)
Net income	1,992	2,259	2,916	3,448	2,389	3,577	4,871	4,984	5,801	6,560
Net income (adjusted)	1,992	2,259	2,916	3,448	2,389	3,577	4,457	4,984	5,801	6,560
EPS (adjusted) (Rs)	23.9	27.1	35.0	41.4	28.7	42.8	53.4	59.7	69.5	78.6
Balance sheet										
Cash & equivalents	6,751	7,334	9,853	6,831	8,153	9,441	11,654	14,915	18,620	22,843
Debtors	532	514	667	854	708	774	881	992	1,135	1,288
Other current assets	853	1,079	931	1,066	869	1,052	1,100	1,146	1,204	1,267
Current assets	8,136	8,927	11,451	8,751	9,730	11,267	13,635	17,053	20,959	25,398
Fixed assets (incl. goodwill)	2,121	2,900	3,086	11,797	11,094	10,559	10,028	9,583	9,177	8,662
Other non-current assets	648	1,917	2,076	2,984	3,031	2,734	3,505	3,505	3,505	3,505
Total assets	10,905	13,744	16,613	23,532	23,855	24,560	27,168	30,142	33,641	37,566
Short-term loans	—	—	—	1,789	1,533	833	-	-	-	-
Creditors and other liabilities	1,089	2,274	2,743	3,211	3,165	3,819	4,025	4,584	5,253	5,991
Current liabilities	1,089	2,274	2,743	5,000	4,698	4,652	4,025	4,584	5,253	5,991
Secured loans	—	—	1	1,668	833	—	—	—	—	—
Other liabilities (incl. deferred)	306	930	1,109	1,429	1,329	1,054	1,078	1,078	1,078	1,078
Total liabilities	1,395	3,204	3,853	8,097	6,860	5,706	5,103	5,662	6,331	7,069
Equity	9,455	10,328	12,450	15,080	16,663	18,493	21,727	24,072	26,802	29,889
Total equity and liabilities	10,905	13,744	16,613	23,532	23,855	24,560	27,168	30,142	33,641	37,566
Cash flow										
CFO pre-WC changes	3,135	3,652	4,632	5,934	5,270	6,317	7,267	8,054	9,474	10,776
Working capital	93	122	367	(167)	355	357	60	94	121	130
Tax	(1,043)	(935)	(1,017)	(1,300)	(1,065)	(1,320)	(1,639)	(1,965)	(2,410)	(2,720)
Cash flow from operations	2,185	2,839	3,982	4,467	4,560	5,354	5,688	6,183	7,184	8,186
Capex (including acquisitions)	(420)	(1,060)	(627)	(941)	(365)	(512)	(443)	(700)	(800)	(850)
Free cash flow	1,765	1,779	3,355	3,526	4,195	4,842	5,245	5,483	6,384	7,336
Key ratios (%)										
Sales growth (%)	13.9	10.6	18.9	32.0	(3.4)	10.4	10.5	12.6	14.4	13.5
Gross margin (%)	78.2	77.5	74.9	75.9	77.8	79.7	80.4	80.6	80.7	80.9
EBITDA margin (%)	24.4	25.8	27.6	26.9	24.3	27.4	28.3	27.9	28.8	28.9
RoAE (%)	22.9	22.8	25.6	25.0	15.1	20.3	22.2	21.8	22.8	23.1
RoCE (%)	19.0	18.9	21.8	19.9	11.8	16.4	20.2	18.6	19.6	19.7
Net debt to equity (X)	(0.7)	(0.7)	(0.8)	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.6)	(0.7)	(0.8)

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

We forecast ~18%/22%/29% sales/EBITDA/EPS CAGRs for METROHL over FY2025-28E
Exhibit 33: METROHL, summary financials, March fiscal year-ends, 2019-28E (Rs mn)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026E	2027E	2028E
Net revenues	7,612	8,564	9,980	12,283	11,482	12,077	13,312	16,622	18,953	21,603
Gross profit	5,821	6,454	7,404	9,454	8,884	9,516	10,523	13,000	14,873	17,028
EBITDA	2,004	2,328	2,860	3,428	2,883	2,826	3,030	3,993	4,750	5,531
Depreciation & amortisation	(201)	(393)	(459)	(632)	(892)	(945)	(1,087)	(1,327)	(1,444)	(1,501)
EBIT	1,803	1,936	2,401	2,796	1,991	1,881	1,943	2,667	3,306	4,030
Net interest	77	2	43	(21)	(116)	(134)	(35)	45	51	160
Profit before tax	1,866	1,933	2,443	2,774	1,875	1,747	1,909	2,712	3,357	4,190
Tax and deferred tax	(629)	(412)	(610)	(787)	(441)	(462)	(453)	(678)	(839)	(1,047)
Less: minority interest	(35)	(2)	(3)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(5)	(12)	(16)	(20)
Net income	1,201	1,273	1,831	2,142	1,429	1,278	1,450	2,022	2,502	3,122
Net income (adjusted)	1,201	1,466	1,831	1,983	1,429	1,278	1,450	2,022	2,502	3,122
Fully diluted number of shares (mn)	50	51	51	51	51	51	51	52	52	52
EPS (adjusted) (Rs)	23.9	29.0	36.2	38.8	27.9	25.0	28.4	39.2	48.4	60.5
Balance sheet										
Cash & equivalents	1,113	2,230	4,280	1,807	1,063	1,243	1,183	1,156	2,009	3,158
Debtors	1,368	1,282	1,230	1,355	1,219	1,263	1,479	1,847	2,106	2,401
Other current assets	566	458	575	769	746	653	797	916	1,000	1,095
Current assets	3,047	3,971	6,085	3,931	3,027	3,158	3,459	3,920	5,115	6,654
Fixed assets (incl. goodwill)	2,186	2,397	2,400	9,552	9,668	9,969	12,767	16,008	15,669	15,280
Other non-current assets	293	1,155	1,560	1,820	2,321	2,423	2,447	2,697	2,897	3,097
Total assets	5,526	7,522	10,044	15,303	15,016	15,551	18,673	22,625	23,681	25,031
Short-term loans	4	—	—	999	504	—	89	1,089	589	—
Creditors and other liabilities	510	1,695	1,706	2,017	2,145	2,459	2,854	3,167	3,387	3,638
Current liabilities	514	1,695	1,706	3,015	2,650	2,459	2,943	4,256	3,977	3,638
Long-term loans	176	—	—	1,587	286	—	53	1,053	553	—
Other liabilities (incl. deferred)	637	576	1,257	1,819	2,173	2,099	2,331	2,581	2,781	2,981
Total liabilities	1,327	2,271	2,963	6,421	5,109	4,558	5,327	7,890	7,310	6,619
Equity	4,185	5,235	7,066	8,862	9,882	10,962	13,310	14,856	16,476	18,498
Total equity and liabilities	5,526	7,522	10,044	15,303	15,016	15,551	18,673	22,625	23,681	25,031
Cash flow										
CFO pre-WC changes	2,083	2,515	3,212	3,522	2,916	2,960	3,224	3,993	4,750	5,531
Working capital	(508)	280	(153)	(164)	71	55	(157)	(174)	(122)	(139)
Tax	(674)	(644)	(568)	(825)	(516)	(374)	(440)	(678)	(839)	(1,047)
Cash flow from operations	902	2,150	2,490	2,533	2,471	2,641	2,627	3,142	3,789	4,344
Capex	(196)	(486)	(337)	(307)	(526)	(638)	(686)	(550)	(500)	(450)
Free cash flow	706	1,664	2,154	2,226	1,945	2,003	1,941	2,592	3,289	3,894
Key ratios (%)										
Sales growth (%)	18.3	12.5	16.5	23.1	(6.5)	5.2	10.2	24.9	14.0	14.0
Gross margin (%)	76.5	75.4	74.2	77.0	77.4	78.8	79.1	78.2	78.5	78.8
EBITDA margin (%)	26.3	27.2	28.7	27.9	25.1	23.4	22.8	24.0	25.1	25.6
RoAE (%)	28.8	31.1	29.8	24.9	15.2	12.3	11.9	14.4	16.0	17.9
RoACE (post-tax, ex-cash) (%)	36.7	50.7	64.7	20.8	15.8	14.2	12.1	12.6	15.9	19.7
Net debt to equity (X)	(0.2)	(0.4)	(0.6)	0.1	(0.0)	(0.1)	(0.1)	0.1	(0.1)	(0.2)

Source: Company, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

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ADD. We expect this stock to deliver 5-15% returns over the next 12 months.

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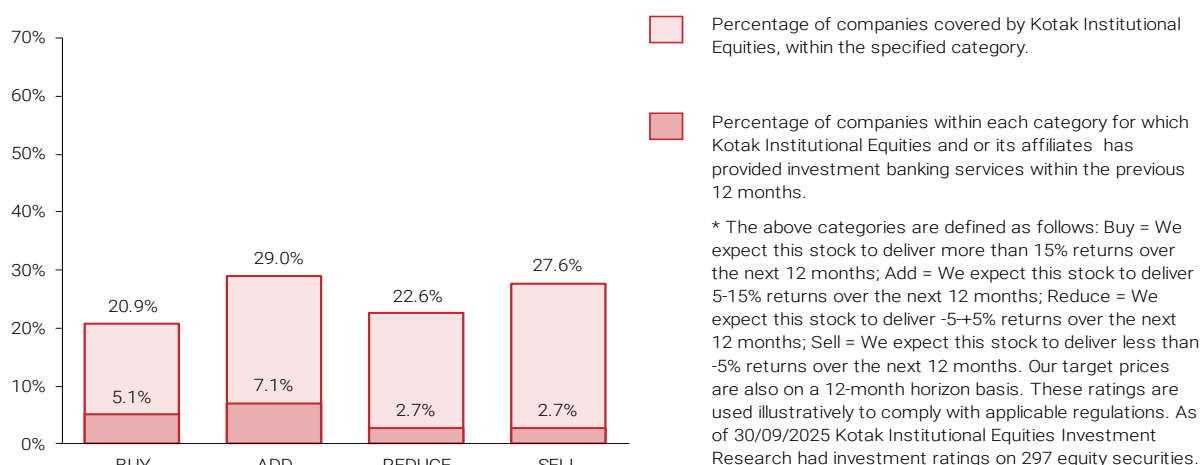
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