

Pictet-Biotech

June 2010

A pioneer in biotechnology investments

Investment mandate

Since the launch of the Pictet-Biotech fund in 1995, Pictet has provided investors with access to the growth opportunities in Biotechnology. In order to carefully manage the risks of this comparably volatile market, the investment universe of the fund has been designed to focus on companies that have a commercially successful business model. Small companies with great ideas, but no near-term sales potential, are filtered out of the investment focus. Except for these few but important constraints, the fund manager is free to select companies from any market, provided they are listed on a public stock exchange.

Hence, the focus is on enterprises that successfully sell biotech drugs or have drug projects in late stages of the development process (Phase III). Generally, they are comparably large in market capitalisation.

Our fund's investment strategy can be summarised as follows:

- *Active management,* in areas where there is solid evidence of the potential to generate alpha over the long term by taking active risk;
- Focus on bottom-up stock selection, with the emphasis on fundamental analysis and company visits;
- *Continuous risk management,* integrated into the investment process, and then ensured by independent risk control units;
- A non-benchmark style as no one index is able to fully reflect the diversity of the sectors we invest in.

Reference index

For the daily management of the fund, the fund manager has no obligation to beat any particular index. None of the well known biotechnology indices are anything close to the investment objective of the Pictet-Biotech fund and all have their drawbacks.

- Nasdaq Biotech Index: almost US-only index; various constituents are by no means biotech firms (ex. Mylan, Shire, Teva, Warner Chilcott)
- AMEX Biotech: US-only and equal-weighted index; only 20 constituents
- MSCI World Biotechnology Index: global index, only 11 constituents

Consequently, any comparison to one of the above three indices is for illustration purposes only and has no reference to the investment approach.

Why compare with Nasdaq Biotech Index anyway?

Since the investment community asks for a reference point. We selected the NBI because it is a well known index, while always emphasising that it is a Reference Index and **not a Benchmark**. In this sense, the NBI is the "least bad" of the three, with no material impact on the fund's strategic positioning or its day-to-day management.

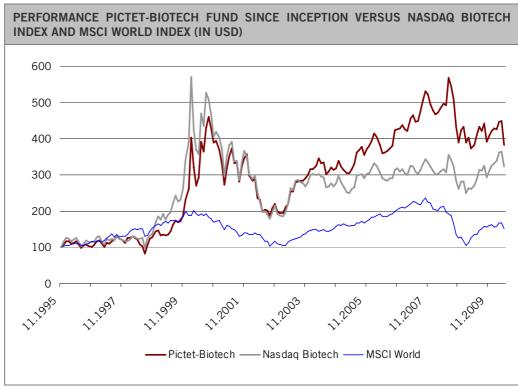
Performance relative to Reference Index

The Pictet-Biotech fund has outperformed the NBI 10 out of 14 years. In the past, it was only in 1998-99, when the biotechnology bubble was being built up, that the fund achieved returns lower than those of the NBI. For one, this had been the result of soaring stock prices of companies that were selling a lot of hope on the back of illusive expectations, both scientifically and economically. Furthermore, the index itself did not accurately measure the diversity of the industry at that time, with a company like Amgen, for instance, making up approximately 40% of the index, a weight that the fund was not allowed to have in any particular stock for legal reasons.

Albeit the situation of 2008-09 is not quite the same as it was in the late 1990s, the fund most recently went through a period of relative underperformance

compared with the NBI. The reasons for this situation, which have been discussed over the last months, can be summarised in short as follows:

- *Defensive characteristics* of the management mandate vs. increased risk appetite of the investor community, favouring small-cap stocks over large caps, a trend that goes into 2010
- Strong performance of the non-biotech constituents of the NBI.
- A few *missed opportunities* and stock picks that failed.



Source: Pictet

YEAR-ON-YEAR PERFORMANCE OF FUND VERSUS NBI (IN USD AND EUR)														
	Absolute year-on-year fund performance													
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Pictet-Biotech-P USD	-0.4	3.1	30.1	60.0	69.7	-10.9	-43.2	50.4	13.3	11.9	13.0	15.4	-14.3	-0.7
PIctet-Biotech-P EUR						-6.0	-51.9	25.7	5.0	28.1	1.4	4.4	-10.5	-3.3
Relative year-on-year fund performance versus Nasdaq Biotech Index														
Pictet-Biotech-P USD	0.7	5.5	-18.7	-41.7	46.7	5.3	2.1	4.6	7.2	9.0	12.0	10.9	-1.7	-16.3
PIctet-Biotech-P EUR						5.6	1.8	3.9	.6.67	10.3	10.8	9.8	-1.8	-15.9

Source: Pictet

Sectoral manages funds for Pictet since 2000

In 2000, Pictet mandated Sectoral Asset Management Inc. ("Sectoral") to manage the Pictet-Biotech fund. Since the launch of the Pictet-Generics fund in 2004, Sectoral has also been the investment advisor in charge for this product. The person in charge of the management of both funds is Michael Sjöström, CIO and Co-founder of Sectoral. He previously worked at Pictet & Cie from 1993 to 2000, and has been in charge of managing the Pictet-Biotech fund since its inception in 1995.

Conclusions

Despite the Pictet-Biotech fund lost, for credible and traceable reasons, part of its performance edge most recently, Pictet Funds will not move to a close benchmarking approach and, accordingly, will not change the characteristics of the investment mandate given to Sectoral.

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