BioSpect
the business of Bi
24 years of leveraging the business of Bio
www.biospectrumindia.co

WHO introduces plan for cheaper TB drugs

09 March 2018 | News

WHO has now requested drug makers to submit an Expression of Interest (EoI) for Bedaquiline and Delaminid.



The World Health Organisation (WHO) has invited pharmaceutical companies around the world to submit proposals to manufacture affordable versions of newer medicines for treatment of drug resistant tuberculosis.

WHO has now requested drug makers to submit an Expression of Interest (EoI) for Bedaquiline and Delaminid, two new-generation drugs, recommended for drug resistant-TB (DR-TB). Under WHO norms, drugs submitted upon such requests and complying with its standards are included in a list for procurement by the UN and other organisations.

The EoI allows generics manufacturers interested in producing these two drugs, and currently facing technical challenges, to address their questions to WHO's pre-qualification team.

India has nearly 1.3 lakh DR-TB patients, the most in the world, but the Health Ministry gets only 10,000 doses of Bedaquiline and 400 doses of Delaminid. The medicines are obtained as donations from Janssen (US) and Otsuka Pharmaceuticals (Japan), the respective manufacturers.