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

IIT-R scientists work on treating chikungunya

23 April 2018 | News

The researchers have reported that the molecule, Pep-I, has superior antiviral activity against chikungunya virus.

A group of scientists at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee, has developed a small molecule that has good antiviral activity against chikungunya virus.

The researchers have reported that the molecule, Pep-I, has superior antiviral activity against chikungunya virus. The small molecule was found to effectively bind to the protein of the virus (nsP2 protease) and prevent the virus from replicating.

The team also tested whether the molecules were specifically inhibiting only the chikungunya virus. They used Sindbis virus, the model virus of the genus alphavirus to which chikungunya belongs, to test the specificity. However, the two molecules did not show antiviral activity against Sindbis virus indicating that they are very specific to chikungunya virus.