

## Sesderma launches Lactyferin to counter COVID-19

13 April 2020 | News | By Kalyani Sharma

**Sesderma has approached ICMR to conduct its own trial to verify the effectiveness of Lactyferin**



Sesderma, a Spanish company specializes in Nanotechnology, has managed to produce an effective drug named Lactyferin (LF) to counter the COVID-19 strain. Lactyferin (LF) is known to exhibit medicinal properties and strengthen the immune system. Since the COVID-19 strain targets immuno-compromised people, LF can turn out to be a very potent medicine against the disease.

Antiviral activity is associated with the effect of acting as a competitor of cell membrane receptors commonly used by viruses to enter cells. Specifically, lactoferrin is an ACE2 blocker and prevents the binding of the protein S from the virus spike to the host cell, preventing the virus from being fused to the cell membrane. The nanoliposome also has a beneficial action related to its size and composition (phosphatidyl choline). Because of its smaller size (100 nm) than the virus (150 nm), the liposome competes in to reach the target cell more quickly, where it settles before the virus. Lactyferin can also suppress replication of the virus after the virus enters the cell as in the case of AIDS (Puddu et al, 1998).

Also, since the liposome that encases the Lactyferin is made of soy lecithin (phosphatidyl choline), the medicine is biodegradable and biocompatible, which it means it is very safe.

Dr. Gabriel Serrano Sanmiguel, CEO and Founder of Sesderma Laboratories said, "More than 75 patients affected by COVID-19 have been successfully treated to date with moderate to severe clinical features. Seeing the effectiveness of the medicine, the Madrid local authority has asked for the use of Lactoferrin as well. It has been also proven by us that from certain doses Lactoferrin is able to prevent COVID-19 infection. In addition, we have contributed to the success of compassionate treatments with Lactoferrin in at least 4 intubated hospitalized patients with high-risk and virtually evicted analytical signs."

"The sheer scale on which this catastrophe has encompassed the world has brought us to a point where we desperately need a cure for this disease and looking at the test results and patient response, I believe Lactoferrin can help shift the tide in our favour," he further added.

Treatment with Lactoferrin has already begun in Madrid at the Isema Hospital. The medicine will be tested on 300 patients at different hospitals in Madrid and Valencia. Seeing the overwhelming success of the medicine against the COVID-19 strain, Sesderma has initiated an official contract with the health authority of Valencian community.

Recently, Sesderma contacted Dr Harsh Vardhan, Health Minister of India about the effectiveness of Lactoferrin against COVID-19, and how it has been successful in completely curing 75 patients. He directed Sesderma to share this solution with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

Sesderma has approached ICMR to conduct its own trial to verify the effectiveness Lactoferrin. Company has volunteered to support ICMR with 30 to 40 patients. Large scale production of LF is already under way, and once it gets its green flag from the ICMR, we finally might have an effective solution to end the pandemic.