

## Bengaluru-based startup Focelite to launch COVID-19 therapy Welblu

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Focelite, a startup at Bangalore Bioinnovation Centre (BBC), plans to launch 'Welblu', an innovative solution to treat COVID-19, in collaboration with the US partner. It is a curative therapy for COVID-19 positive patients.

A clinical study with this innovative solution has been performed in the US. This study has shown that COVID-19 positive patients who have undergone treatment using Welblu effectively recovered from cytokine storm and respiratory distress in the lesser meantime than the control group.

Welblu has unique therapeutic action that simultaneously impacts several mechanisms related to COVID -19 complications such as severe hypoxia, hyperinflammatory reactions and the increased death signalling leading to an immunosuppressive state.

Likewise, it is seen to be re-adjusting cellular metabolism to a mitochondrion–centred condition that is depriving the COVID-19 virus of energetic and structural supplies.

In predicted wave-3, this product will bridge the gap between vaccinated and the non-vaccinated group. A trial on paediatric age group is underway. It will work effectively on the coronavirus strain of Alpha, Beta, Delta, Delta +, Gamma variation. The product will help in spreading community transmission in the third wave and prevent an individual from dreadful ICU admissions. It will lessen the health economic burden of our country on a huge scale.

BBC is a joint initiative of Department of Biotechnology, Government of India and Department of Electronics, IT, BT and S&T, Government of Karnataka.