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Biotech startup CrisprBits raises $250k in Pre-Seed Round from US-based VJ Group

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To address critical healthcare needs through the use of a breakthrough technology like CRISPR



Bengaluru-based startup CrisprBits has raised $250,000 in Pre-seed funding from US-based VJ Group. The funding will be used towards product development, team expansion and for research and development.

Founded by Dr Vijay Chandru, Sunil Arora, Dr Rajeev Kohli, Bharat Jobanputra, and Aditya Sarda in 2020, CrisprBits was started with a vision of developing high-quality healthcare solutions in diagnostics and gene editing that all Indians can afford.

The company plans to extend its CRISPR-based diagnostics platform to point-of-care detection of pathogens and antimicrobial resistance genes associated with hospital-acquired infections.

Very recently, the company developed OmiCrisp, a CRISPR-based test to detect SARS-CoV2 and to determine whether it is an Omicron or non-omicron variant. The test was developed with support and collaboration from the C-CAMP-InDx (Indigenisation of Diagnostics Programme), an initiative supported by the Department of Biotechnology, Govt of India.

Sunil Arora, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, CrisprBits, said, “The new investment will accelerate our next phase of growth and allow us develop many more high-quality healthcare solutions in diagnostics and gene editing”

Dr Vijay Chandru, Co-Founder and Chief Scientific Officer, said, "At CrisprBits, we are using the latest in CRISPR gene editing technology to bring high-quality life sciences solutions to all Indians. With the recent publication of our manuscript on OmiCrisp, a CRISPR-based test for SARS-CoV2, we are demonstrating our commitment to infectious disease surveillance and one health. Through our upcoming ‘PATHCRISP’ point of care platform, we are making these solutions accessible to all. Beyond diagnostics, we will also explore new therapeutic strategies in gene editing for oncology, cardio-vascular applications, and even industrial biotechnology applications."