

## MSD and Lupin announce Strategic Partnership

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A recent survey from India showed that the case fatality rate due to invasive pneumococcal disease observed in elderly is 26.4% which is much higher than that in children and highlights the demand for preventive interventions in adults. Pneumococcal disease is an infection caused by bacteria named *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and it leads to variety of invasive and non-invasive pneumococcal diseases.

Across the world 1.6 million people die of pneumococcal disease every year which turns out to be 3 people dying every minute. Adults with co morbid conditions like diabete, chronic heart diseases are more exposed at a greater rate for pneumococcal diseases than health adults. Identifying this profound risk, this collabration is built on a patient centric model, which will improve vaccination rate for pneumococcal disease, specially to target population to lessen incidence and mortality in adults.

Mr. K.G. Ananthakrishnan, Managing director, MSD in India, responded on the tie up " It is a perfect amalgamation as MSD brings the reserch and scientific quality for Pneumococcal Polysaccharide vaccines (PPV), and Lupin MSD has a rich legacy of developing vaccines to prevent some of the worlds leading diseases. We are proud to have entered into a strategic, India-specific partnership with Lupin."

"We are delighted to be associated with MSD in India. This association bears testimony to Lupin's leadership credentials in the Indian Pharmaceutical Market (IPM), 2.8% market share of the overall IPM (IMS TSA MAT, March 2013). We affirm that the partnership is an important step-forward as both companies share a common passion and goal to make a striking difference to the lives of patients in India."

