

Dr Reddy's starts CETP inhibitor study

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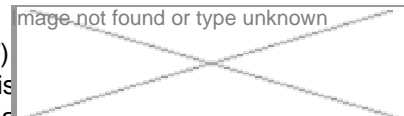
Dr Reddy's Laboratories initiated dosing patients diagnosed with type II dyslipidemia with DRL-17822. DRL-17822 is a selective, orally bioavailable inhibitor of cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP), for the treatment and prevention of dyslipidemia, atherosclerosis and associated cardiovascular disease. The current study is being conducted under a CTA in a number of countries in Europe.

The objective of the study is to evaluate the efficacy and safety of DRL-17822 in patients with type-II dyslipidemia. This is a randomized, double blind, placebo controlled, parallel group study in 160 subjects. The primary outcome measure is to assess the elevation in HDL cholesterol and reduction in LDL cholesterol from baseline to end of treatment compared to placebo. Three doses (50, 150 and 300 mg) of DRL-17822 given once daily for four weeks will be evaluated during this study.

India, Canada to foster joint R&D

Under the Canada-India agreement for scientific and technological cooperation, the governments of Canada and India have agreed to foster joint research and development (R&D) projects by implementing Ontario/India Collaborative Research Fund (CRF).

While the Indian side is being represented by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, the Canadian side is represented by the International Science and Technology Partnerships Canada (ISTP), a non-governmental organization selected by the Ministry of Research and Innovation (MRI), Government of Ontario, Canada. The program is open to R&D projects in all areas of biotechnology, including life sciences and medical devices.



CSIR starts research on Ayurgenomics

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has established a new line of research named Ayurgenomics, which is an integrative approach of Ayurveda and Genomics, for the discovery of predictive markers for preventive and personalized medicine.

This was revealed by Minister of State for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences Ashwani Kumar at the foundation day celebrations of CSIR in New Delhi on September 26. While praising the efforts of CSIR in this direction, the minister said, "This has given a novel molecular framework for integration of these two disciplines and will accelerate discovery of markers for predictive and personalized medicine. We need to create new platforms for innovation, nurture them and make them global."

After the success of Open Source Drug Discovery (OSDD), the CSIR launched Distributed Organic Chemical Synthesis Programme (DOCS) in open source mode. The program has emerged as a new platform for innovation in the domain of healthcare with the global partnership of more than 4,500 researchers from over 100 countries as registered participants.

DBT, EC collaborate for waste water treatment solutions

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, and European Commission have come together to support the development of innovative biotechnological waste-water treatments for improved water recycling for agriculture and to improve water use.

The objective of the pilot initiative is to support strategic cooperation between India, the EU and member states for addressing more effectively global societal challenge in water and bio resources related issues. The project will develop applications for waste water treatments, leading to a greater integration of researchers and activities across India and the European Union. Through this program, DBT intends to encourage multi-institutional networked program with cross disciplinary partnerships. The project funded under this activity is an important building block of the pilot initiative for developing EU and member states for strategic research and innovation agenda with India.

The participation of industry, including SMEs, is expected to contribute to bring a market-oriented innovation in this field in order to address the social dimension of the project. A wide co-ordination of research activities in the topic area between India and the EU, which are both major players in these fields, will contribute to step up the India-EU collaboration in scope and scale. The collaborative project includes the large-scale integrating project targeted at small and medium scale enterprises.
