

PPP: Taking diseases head-on

13 February 2012 | News

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In this month's Public-Private Partnership (PPP) series, BioSpectrum continues to decipher and elaborate on the success of PPPs and the potential that they offer to the life sciences industry in India. This issue showcases three case studies that illustrate the benefits of such initiatives.

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- Hyderabad-based RAS Lifesciences, in partnership with the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, New Delhi, is developing a unique replicon model to treat hepatitis C genotype 3. The PPP has also received support from the Biotechnology Industry Partnership Program (BIPP).

- New Delhi-based J Mitra introduced a rapid ELISA-based test for diagnosing the dengue virus, in collaboration with the International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), New Delhi. The detection, which is done using NS1 antigen and can be done on the first day itself, would save valuable time of patients as the key to survival in dengue is early detection.

Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad, produced live attenuated oral vaccine that is based on the rotavirus strain 116E. The project is a PPP with the Department of Biotechnology; Society for Applied Studies, National Institute of Immunology; Translational Health Sciences Technology Institute; the Indian Institute of Science; and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. The project is also supported by several international organizations, including the

Gates Foundation and Stanford University among others.