

## **News Releases**

### **Syngene International and Innate Pharmaceuticals collaborate to develop virulence blockers**

Syngene International Private Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Biocon Limited and Innate Pharmaceuticals AB, Umea, Sweden have concluded a cooperation agreement to jointly develop, manufacture and market virulence blockers to counteract bacterial diarrhoeal disease. Virulence blockers are a new class of drugs that could become an alternative to antibiotics.

Clinical studies of therapeutic effect will be conducted over the next three years and a candidate drug will be developed to the stage of a limited Phase II study in patients with diarrhoeal disease. Once therapeutic effect is demonstrated, Syngene will carry out further clinical studies enabling the virulence blocker to be registered as a drug for the treatment of bacterial diarrhoeal disease. Innate Pharmaceuticals will have European marketing rights, while Syngene will have rights to other parts of the world market. Each company will receive royalties on the sales conducted by the other.

Besides speeding virulence blockers towards the clinical phase, this cooperation greatly reduces Innate Pharmaceuticals' risk exposure and provides the company with the financial capacity to further develop virulence blocking drugs. Additional resources will also allow Innate Pharmaceuticals to strengthen the patent protection for its virulence blockers.

Innate Pharmaceuticals and Syngene have been working together in several projects over the past three years. "The new agreement is testimony that our work together has progressed very well and further reiterates our commitment to new research initiatives together" said SuneRosell, CEO of Innate Pharmaceuticals.

Added Dr.Goutam Das, Chief Operating Officer, Syngene International Private Limited, "We are delighted to announce this long term research cooperation with Innate Pharmaceuticals. Together we are committed to developing virulence blockers as alternatives and complements to antibiotics. This effort is also towards a new class of targets hitherto not exploited."

Virulence blockers disarm certain bacteria, rendering them incapable of causing disease, without affecting the body's normal bacterial flora, thus reducing the risk that the bacteria will develop resistance to the drug. With virulence blockers yet to reach the market, it is crucial that the two companies demonstrate that these drugs can prevent or cure human infectious disease.

Diarrhoeal diseases are one of the biggest factors in the global disease burden. There is an extensive medical need for drugs to treat diarrhoeal diseases, which affect over one billion people worldwide every year. In the USA alone, diarrhoeal diseases lead to 1.8 million hospital visits and over 3,000 deaths each year. In India, an estimated 400,000 deaths occur due to diarrhoeal disease every year.

#### **About Innate Pharmaceuticals**

Innate Pharmaceuticals AB (publ) was formed in 2000 to create a commercial platform for the world-leading research taking place at Umeå University and Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. The company has developed and applied for patents for a number of chemical substances to counteract bacterial infections; these are known

as "virulence blocking substances". E-mail: This email address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it.

## **About Syngene International Private Limited**

Syngene is an internationally reputed Custom Research Company with multi-disciplinary skills in Synthetic Chemistry and Molecular Biology. Established in 1994 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Biocon Limited, Syngene is a chemical synthesis-driven Custom Research Company.

Syngene provides customised R&D services in early stage drug discovery and development to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies worldwide. With state-of-the-art facilities, dedicated connectivity and highly qualified researchers, Syngene offers its customers a powerful value advantage in the field of outsourced research and development. Our teams of highly skilled scientists offer clients quality services with particular attention to confidentiality, time-lines and cost-effectiveness.

## **Contact Information**

Dr SuneRosell,

CEO, Innate Pharmaceuticals AB,  
+46 90-13 66 50 or +46 70-557 22 00

Paula Sengupta/GayatriAppaya

Biocon Limited

Tel: +91 80 2852 3434

Fax: +91 80 2852 3423

Email: This email address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it. /

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