

Workflow optimization is a key priority for pharma labs in India: Agilent

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Instrumentation with improved reliability and accuracy will be key to facilitating higher productivity



Agilent Technologies has unveiled the results of its most recent Pharma Lab Leaders Survey, conducted in association with the global research firm Frost & Sullivan. The survey gathers insights from pharmaceutical, biopharmaceutical, and contract research laboratories around the world.

Respondents included 650 laboratory managers, directors, and supervisors from China, Germany, India, South Korea, Switzerland, Austria, and the United States. The laboratories surveyed are involved in a range of activities from disease research to manufacturing.

Respondents highlighted their unique industry challenges, laboratory pain points, and goals for the future. Globally, the primary focus was on achieving quicker results (55%), superior quality (44%), and data integrity (43%). Over half of the respondents indicated that quality standards are getting more stringent in their laboratories, with over 80% finding that their current workflow requires further optimization.

In India, it was found that sustainability goals were a key priority for pharmaceutical and biotech companies, especially reducing carbon emissions (70%). With regard to challenges, 85% of lab managers felt that more reliable and accurate instrumentation would be crucial to further optimizing workflows.

More lab leaders in India are concerned about increased demands to get generic medicines to market quicker than any other region (3rd ranking in India's regional survey).

Bharat Bhardwaj, India Country General Manager, Agilent Technologies said, "At Agilent, we endeavor to enhance our offerings in line with the evolving needs of the industry. This survey has helped us better understand key pharmaceutical objectives, requirements, challenges, and operational pain points in a laboratory setting. Based on the new insights, we will continue to design and deliver solutions that help our customers drive efficiency across their labs."

The top strategies being deployed globally by lab leaders to more efficiently move drugs through the pipeline are:

- Buying more sophisticated instruments that deliver a greater degree of specificity (85%)

- Improving documentation of the sample chain of custody (70%)
- Employing better-qualified staff (56%).

In comparison to other regions, 54% of the surveyed lab leaders in India felt that increasing the existing number of instruments would improve and optimize workflow procedures. This is one of the top strategies being deployed to progress drugs through the pipeline and to market faster.