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IISER Bhopal proposes biochemical link between COVID-19, diabetes, ageing

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An urgent need to shortlist effective therapeutics from the existing pool of potential compounds



Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal scientists have recently published a review of the biomolecular relationships among COVID-19, ageing, and diabetes.

Dr Amjad Husain, Principal Scientist, and CEO, Innovation and Incubation Center for Entrepreneurship (IICE), IISER Bhopal, along with researchers from The University of Arizona, USA, have presented that existing drugs used to treat diabetes, obesity and ageing can potentially be used to treat COVID-19.

The published review shows that at the molecular level, there are intersecting pathways that are common to diabetes, ageing, and COVID-19.

All three conditions are associated with oxidative stress and lowering of the immune response and complications arising from them lead to the onset of numerous other diseases such as cardiovascular disorders, eye diseases, neuropathy (nerve diseases), and nephropathy (kidney problems).

The researchers believe that an ideal therapeutic candidate for COVID-19 should be able to target the pathways that are common to diabetes, ageing and the SARS-CoV-2 infection.