

## Mankind Pharma, BDR Pharma launch anti COVID-19 pill Molulife

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Mankind Pharma and BDR Pharmaceuticals have launched oral anti- COVID pill Molulife (Molnupiravir). The tie-up is a licensing arrangement where production is by BDR Pharma and marketing, selling, promotion, distribution is by Mankind Pharma.

Molnupiravir is an anti-viral drug developed by Merck & Co (known as MSD outside US), in collaboration with Ridgeback Biotherapeutics. It is the first oral anti-COVID pill approved by the UK's drug regulator-UK Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) for the treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in adults.

Molnupiravir is an orally administered form of a potent ribonucleoside analogue that inhibits the replication of SARS-CoV-2, the causative agent of COVID-19. Molnupiravir targets the SARS-CoV-2 RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp) the same way other nucleoside analogues do and mediates replication and transcription of the coronavirus genome.