BioSpectrum
the business of Bi
24 years of leveraging the business of Bio
www.biospectrumindia.co

Indo-Spanish collaboration to develop affordable drugs for mosquito-borne infections

21 March 2023 | News

Foundation for Neglected Disease Research (India) and DevsHealth (Spain) announce a collaboration



Bengaluru-based Foundation for Neglected Disease Research (FNDR) and Spanish firm DevsHealth have announced the start of a collaborative project to develop new broad-spectrum antiviral agents for infections caused by flaviviruses such as dengue, Zika, West Nile virus, and Japanese encephalitis, among others.

Flaviviruses belong to the Flaviviridae family of viruses and cause more than 400 million human infections per year. Most cases are mild infections with self-limiting febrile episodes, but some infections cause severe and life-threatening disease with symptoms such as haemorrhagic fever, encephalitis, paralysis, or hepatic failure, among others.

Climate change is affecting global disease distribution, and an increase in flavivirus infection cases has been seen inEurope and North America. This collaboration has the potential to revolutionise the way flavivirus infections are treated. There are currently no drugs available to patients to treat these infections.

The mix of FNDR's capabilities in infectious diseases research together with the DeepTech platform from DevsHealth will allow the consortium to accelerate the discovery of new broad-spectrum agents for flaviviruses. DevsHealth will be in charge of *in silico* studies and chemistry efforts and the FNDR will manage all *in vitro* and *in vivo* experiments.