



# MARKINGO

*The Monthly Marketing Newsletter*

JULY 2020

VOL. 3 ISSUE 7



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# RACE TO BE THE FIRST



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BE THE FIRST**

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**WORD QUEST**

## RUSSIA ON CORONA VACCINE

By Kumar Pritam Mehta-19221019  
(MBA 2nd Year)

Amidst the rising novel coronavirus infections and deaths in the world, Russia plans to register a coronavirus vaccine in the mid of August 2020. The drug is developed by Moscow's Gamaleya Institute and the Russian Direct Investment Fund and the same may be approved for civilian use within three to seven days of registration by regulatory authorities. Other than this Russian drug maker R-Pharm has also signed a contract with AstraZeneca for it to manufacture a coronavirus vaccine which will be developed by the British pharmaceuticals giant and Oxford University.

The Defense Ministry of Russia has clarified that tests of the vaccine for the coronavirus are being conducted in full compliance with complete methodological regulations, and there is no attempt to reduce the duration of the research. Russia estimated to make 30 million doses for domestic purpose in 2020 for its first Covid-19 vaccine and 170 million for international use, till date five countries had expressed their interest in developing the vaccine while others are willing to produce it to, sated according to a Bloomberg report quoting Russian Direct Investment Fund's head Kirill Dmitriev.

President of Russia Vladimir Putin has stated that finding a cure for the virus is their first priority. Russia has till now recorded more than 800,000 Covid-19 cases, which makes it the fourth most-affected country in the world from the virus. By this time more than 100 vaccines are being developed around the world to get the cure of this coronavirus and try to stop the coronavirus pandemic and according to WHO data minimum four are in the final Phase III for conducting human trials, three developed in China and the one which is developed in Britain.

The race to develop the first coronavirus vaccine is already on its peak and countries all around the globe are giving their best to find the exact cure for it. But this time the race is not only to prove their excellence in medical and research field but also to fight back with this deadly virus by making the exact antidote for it so that the whole world can be made free from this virus and the life on earth for the humans can come back to the same track as it was before.

# THE AYURVEDIC MEDICINE MAGIC OR A SCAM?



## CORONIL: CURE OR IMMUNITY BOOSTER FOR COVID19?

By Muskan Dungarwal-19221040  
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Last month the consumer goods giant of India “Patanjali Ayurved Limited” came up with a claim to cure the “Covid-19” with their new product “Coronil”. They claimed that they conducted tests which showed results of 100% recovery rate and 0% death rate within a week. They claimed that it is a cure for the dangerous corona virus. Even while backtracking on the describing Coronil as treatment for COVID-19, the company stuck to its claim that the drug’s trial on mild to moderately ill patients was successful. But the “cure” claim opened up a Pandora box within no little time.

Researchers and experts said that these products are not new. These are classic combinations that have been used for many years to boost immunity. Besides exaggerated claims, Patanjali’s conduct could have fallen short of both legal and ethical boundaries. Making a claim like this is likely to feed into the general fear of the people about COVID-19. It could lead to a lot of uptake in the hope that this medicine will be able to protect us.

The ministry observed that Patanjali had not marketed the drugs within the scope of the license it had received. It observed that the proposed drug “Coronil” was registered with the State Licensing Authority for use as an immunity booster against respiratory tract involvement and all types of fever. The Uttarakhand department was among the agencies which had questioned Patanjali’s claim to have developed a drug to cure COVID-19. It was said that the company had only been given a license to manufacture it as an immunity booster.

Perhaps, “Ramdev” wanted to be first off, the block in a race that would have meant important windfall for Patanjali. Patanjali is struggling with market share losses in many FMCG products and a magic COVID drug was just the remedy the company’s business needed.

What we need is a system to weigh the efficacy and safety of Ayurvedic drugs. Just like clinical trials are used to develop testimony of benefit-risk for biological and chemical medicines, there should be a method to evaluate how Ayurvedic drugs actually work.

# REALITY CHECK!!!

## SCARCE AND STEEP: COVID-19 LIFE SAVING DRUGS (CASE-STUDY)

By Suhaib Sayed-19221032 (MBA 2nd Year)

As the virus keeps on infecting millions of people globally each day, the process of finding the cure has been intensifying rapidly. All the nations are contributing their efforts in the development of a successful vaccine which could return our lives back to normalcy. The current treatment process of a COVID-19 infected patient is too monetarily draining. As there being no specific drug, forces the medical team to test a variety of drugs on the patients and note the improvement in their conditions. While the conditions were already poor, many drugs have been reported to be sold overpriced in the black market as the supply and demand gap is wide.

Tocilizumab an immunosuppressive drug, was considered as a lifesaving remedy in many cases. Being given the green light by the government authorities, there has been a significant surge in the demand of the drug. The demand is so high that it is very unlikely to meet up with. Several hospitals are also facing the shortage of the drug. The desperation in the families of patients are leading them to various drug dealers who either denies to have the dose or sell it for more than double its price. Each vial of 400 mg is reported of being available in the black market for about Rs 72000. The doctors believe that a person in the ICU may require at east two vials of 400 mg each of Tocilizumab on average. Tocilizumab is very affordable to produce but it is under the monopoly of Roche, worldwide. The monopoly in the global market is also a great cause for the inflated price of the drug.

Another drug called Remdesivir, an antiviral drug which showed certain benefits to COVID-19 infected people was registered for the emergency use in India from 1st June onwards. But, it was too late as the US corporations failed to provide the supply to India because thousands of doses were being used in the US. Indian drug maker Cipla Ltd. came up with its generic version of Remdesivir and named it Cipremi. Cipla priced Cipremi for Rs 4000 (\$53.34) per 100 mg vial. It was claimed to be one of lowest priced version of the virus' treatment available globally. Although the new drug has brought hope, the question remains same, will the demand be fulfilled as the cases reported each day are rising exponentially?

## WORDSEARCH

By Jitin 19221014 (MBA 2nd Year)



EXPERIMENTAL  
TOXOID  
HETEROTYPIC  
CONJUGATE  
STRINGENT  
CORONIL

REVIVAL  
INACTIVATED  
ATTENUATED  
VACCINE  
VALENCE

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Published by:

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