



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF IMMUNOLOGY

Weekly Report of DBT-NII for Media Cell of DBT

COVID19

Sent on 22nd April 2020

Title of story:

Immunology of COVID-19 in Indian population: Implications for vaccine design

Institute Name:

National Institute of Immunology

Brief Story in 400 words maximum:

The National Institute of immunology is actively progressing to support the development of vaccines for COVID-19. Vaccine is the most preferred preventive measures to protect from COVID-19. However, there are several uncertainties and questions that need to be answered to evaluate a vaccine for human use, particularly, (i) what should be the criteria to qualify a vaccine candidate, (ii) what should be the mechanism of action of a good vaccine, and (iv) how long a particular vaccine will provide the protective cover. These questions could be addressed by applying the advanced human immunology investigations on the COVID-19 patients samples. Team NII is ready with the advanced immunology setup for addressing these questions in COVID-19 patients. The team is also actively working on developing the platform for evaluating the COVID-19 vaccine. The program is recently supported under the DBT and BIRAC joint efforts in COVID-19 National Consortium. The efforts will be accelerated as soon as the patients' samples are available from the DBT COVID-19 research Consortium constituted to collect the COVID-19 patients samples from around 8 clinical centers across the Delhi-NCR

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