

TDB-DST inks agreement with Helix Cell Therapeutics under India-Singapore collaboration

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Supporting indigenous innovation in advanced immunotherapy platforms



In a significant step towards strengthening India's advanced biotechnology and cell therapy system, the Technology Development Board (TDB) of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, has entered into an agreement with Helix Cell Therapeutics, for a project titled "Fabrication and Phase I Clinical Trial of Novel Dual Targeting Chimeric Antigen Receptor T Cells for the Treatment of Multiple Myeloma".

The project is being implemented under the India-Singapore collaborative framework in partnership with Singapore-based Biocell Innovations.

This project focuses on developing an advanced dual-targeting CAR-T cell therapy for multiple myeloma. Multiple myeloma is a debilitating and currently incurable blood cancer. Existing CAR-T therapies targeting BCMA have shown encouraging results in relapsed and resistant patients.

This proposed innovation seeks to further improve the efficacy and duration of remission of treatment by simultaneously targeting both BCMA and CD19 markers expressed on multiple myeloma cells.

Under this project, Helix Cell Therapeutics will develop, fabricate, and clinically evaluate next-generation dual-targeting CAR-T cells through a Phase I clinical trial. This therapy is for patients who have tried several types of treatments and who currently have limited therapeutic options available.