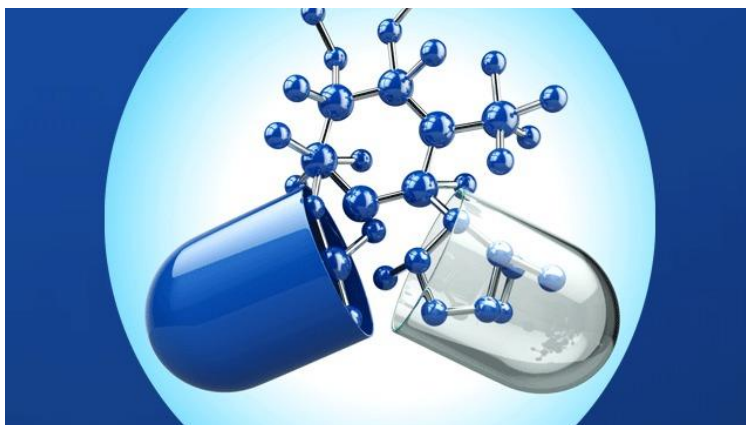


**DBT in collaboration with BIRAC calls for proposals in the area of drug development for both communicable and non-communicable diseases**



The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) in collaboration with its PSU, the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) invites proposals in the area of “Development of Drugs from existing leads with established proof of concept”. The primary objective of the call is to support milestone-driven proposals focused on lead optimization, and preclinical testing of candidate therapeutics for Tuberculosis, Cardio-Vascular Diseases (CVD), Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases (COPD), and Cancer including oral, head and neck, cervical and breast cancer.

India is a leader in global generic pharmaceuticals manufacturing, though, many generics manufactured in India are at the end of their respective product life cycle, with limited new research and development taking place on new drugs. India has got huge burden of both communicable and non-communicable diseases. In order to keep pace with global innovation and to improve health outcomes, there is a need to foster R&D for new and cost-effective therapies. Thus, drug development for availability of indigenous and cost effective drugs is need of the hour.

The call is intended for research and development activities focused only on Lead optimization and preclinical development and clinical therapeutic validation to a point where there is sufficient scientific evidence to justify filing for regulatory approval. This call aims at supporting collaborative proposals that combine complementary and synergistic research strengths in

proposed lead candidate(s)/preclinical therapeutic lead(s). Collaborations among academia with academia, academia-industry, industry-academia, and industry to industry collaborations shall be appreciated.

The research proposals may be may be submitted online in the DBT as well as BIRAC R&D format through DBTeProMIS (<http://dbtepromis.nic.in/Login.aspx>) and BIRAC online web Portal ([www.birac.nic.in](http://www.birac.nic.in)) under Category of Area-‘Drug Development’. The call is open from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 and shall close on 29<sup>th</sup> of February, 2020.

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