

Cipla enters into a licensing agreement with MSD to expand access to investigational oral therapeutic drug for COVID-19 treatment

Mumbai, India; April 28, 2021: Cipla Limited (BSE: 500087; NSE: CIPLA EQ; and hereafter referred to as "Cipla") today announced that it has signed a non-exclusive licensing agreement with MSD a tradename of Merck & Co., Inc. Kenilworth, NJ., USA for the manufacturing and distribution of Molnupiravir, the investigational oral antiviral drug currently being studied in a Phase 3 trial for the treatment of non-hospitalized patients with confirmed COVID-19. MSD is developing Molnupiravir in collaboration with Ridgeback Biotherapeutics. This agreement is a part of Cipla's efforts to enhance global access to treatments for patients affected by the pandemic.

As part of the agreement, Cipla will be permitted to manufacture, market and distribute Molnupiravir in India and more than 100 low and middle income countries. Cipla's extensive geographical and commercial footprint will help make this therapy accessible to more patients and markets.

Molnupiravir (EIDD-2801/MK-4482) is an investigational, orally bioavailable form of a potent ribonucleotide analog that inhibits the replication of multiple RNA viruses including SARS-CoV-2, the causative agent of COVID-19. Molnupiravir has been shown to be active in several models of SARS-CoV-2, including for prophylaxis, treatment and prevention of transmission, as well as SARS-CoV-1 and MERS. EIDD-2801 was invented at Drug Innovations at Emory (DRIVE), LLC, a not-for-profit biotechnology company wholly owned by Emory University.

Commenting on the partnership, Mr. Umang Vohra (MD and Global CEO, Cipla Limited) said, "Cipla continues to remain at the forefront in its fight against COVID-19. As we are hit by the second wave, it is pivotal for us to embrace the power of collaboration in order to combat the threat to human life. We are pleased to partner with MSD for this cause and take this treatment to patients across countries. In keeping with our purpose of Caring for Life, this collaboration will expand patient access to quality treatment for COVID-19"

About Cipla:

Established in 1935, Cipla is a global pharmaceutical company focused on agile and sustainable growth, complex generics, and deepening portfolio in our home markets of India, South Africa, North America, and key regulated and emerging markets. Our strengths in the respiratory, anti-retroviral, urology, cardiology, anti-infective and CNS segments are well-known. Our 46 manufacturing sites around the world produce 50+ dosage forms and 1,500+ products using cutting-edge technology platforms to cater

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to our 80+ markets. Cipla is ranked 3rd largest in pharma in India (IQVIA MAT March' 21), 3rd largest in the pharma private market in South Africa (IQVIA MAT March'21), and is among the most dispensed generic players in the U.S. For over eight decades, making a difference to patients has inspired every aspect of Cipla's work. Our paradigm-changing offer of a triple anti-retroviral therapy in HIV/AIDS at less than a dollar a day in Africa in 2001 is widely acknowledged as having contributed to bringing inclusiveness, accessibility and affordability to the centre of the HIV movement. A responsible corporate citizen, Cipla's humanitarian approach to healthcare in pursuit of its purpose of 'Caring for Life' and deep-rooted community links wherever it is present make it a partner of choice to global health bodies, peers and all stakeholders. For more, please visit www.cipla.com, or click on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#).

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