

# RMRC, Bhubaneswar

(Laxmi Narayan Memorial Library)

## Weekly Current Awareness Service

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LIBRARIANS ARE ALMOST ALWAYS VERY HELPFUL AND OFTEN ALMOST ABSURDLY KNOWLEDGEABLE. THEIR SKILLS ARE PROBABLY VERY UNDERESTIMATED AND LARGELY UNDEREMPLOYED.

**-CHARLES MEDAWAR**

### About Monday Morning

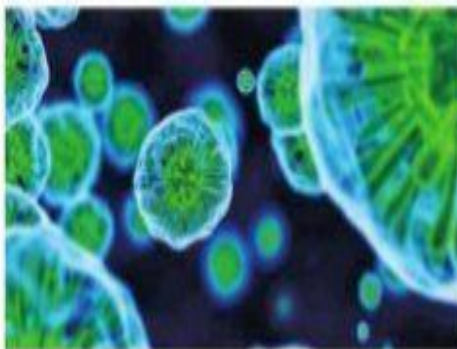
Monday morning is a weekly E- CAS (Electronic Current Awareness Service) of RMRC Library, Bhubaneswar which carries one Biomedical & health science news item and some useful current medical research links so that the scientists can access the articles. This E- Bulletin starts its journey from 21<sup>st</sup> Nov. 2016. In this maiden attempt we cordially invite your inputs and suggestions to improve in future.

**Dr. Banamber Sahoo**, Lib & Inf. Officer  
Satyajit Nayak & Twinkle Rout (Lib. Trainee)

# Method to reprogram immune cells

LOS ANGELES: Scientists have discovered a method that can reprogram inflammatory cells to suppress the immune system, an advance that may help improve treatments for autoimmune diseases and cancer.

Researchers from Gladstone Institutes studied two types of cells called effector T cells, which activate the immune system to defend our body against different pathogens, and regulatory T cells, which help control the immune system and prevent it from attacking healthy parts of its environment. They



identified a small-molecule drug that can successfully reprogramme effector T cells into regulatory T cells. "Our findings could have a significant impact on the treatment of autoimmune dis-

eases, as well as on stem cell and immuno-oncology therapies," said Sheng Ding, who is a professor at the University of California.

This new approach to reprogramme T cells could have several medical applications. For instance, in autoimmune disease, effector T cells are overly activated and cause damage to body, researchers said. Converting these cells into regulatory T cells could help reduce the hyperactivity and return balance to the immune system, thus treating the root of the disease.

## 1. Cold snap makes lizards evolve in just a few months.

We may complain about freezing temperatures, but most cold snaps leave us little worse for the wear. That's not the case for a common lizard living on the Texas-Mexico border, which, in just the span of a few months, underwent a dramatic genetic transformation in response to cold weather. In fact—in one of the most detailed examples of rapid evolution to date—a new study shows that just one cold snap can change the way green anoles' muscular and nervous systems respond to temperature. For more details click on the below link.

<http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/08/cold-snap-makes-lizards-evolve-just-few-months>

## 2. Drug companies flock to supercharged T-cells in fight against autoimmune disease.

Researchers in both academia and industry are turning to immune-suppressing cells to clamp down on autoimmune disorders, and the effort is building to a fever pitch. On 24 July, pharmaceutical firm Eli Lilly of Indianapolis, Indiana, announced that it would pay up to US\$400 million to support the development of a drug — which entered clinical trials in March — that stimulates these cells, called regulatory T cells. And in January, Celgene of Summit, New Jersey, announced plans to buy a company working on a similar therapy for \$300 million. For more details click on the below link.

<http://www.nature.com/news/drug-companies-flock-to-supercharged-t-cells-in-fight-against-autoimmune-disease-1.22393>

## 3. Aggressive breast cancers may contribute to racial survival disparities.

A higher proportion of aggressive breast cancer subtypes are seen in black women, University of North Carolina Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center researchers have found. The study findings help to explain a gap in mortality that exists between black and white women with breast cancer, and could lead to improved treatment approaches to help close it. For more details click on the below link.

[https://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2017-08/ulcc-abc080317.php](https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2017-08/ulcc-abc080317.php)

## 4. WHO Weekly epidemiological record.

Diphtheria vaccine: WHO position paper – August 2017. For more details click on the below link.

<http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/258681/1/WER9231.pdf?ua=1>



### **E- CAS (Current Awareness Service)**

Monday Morning team

Library & Information Division

ICMR-Regional Medical Research Centre

Bhubaneswar- 751023, ODISHA

E- Mail: drbsahoo@gmail.com, Tel: 9438182087