

DRDO's ayurvedic drug for leucoderma attracts global buyers

In the recently held International Arogya Festival 2017 in Delhi, conducted by the Ministry of Ayush, many international pharmaceutical companies showed a keen interest in the drug created by a DRDO scientist that helps cure leucoderma. Owing to this, and encouraged by local demand for herbal medicines, the government is also putting out all stops to tap the global market too.

Lack of awareness, myths, and the stigma attached to leucoderma are perhaps the most pressing challenges that take a toll on the social and psychological health of patients.

Dermatologists explain that Vitiligo is caused by the lack of melanin, the pigment that gives skin its colour: the body's immune system attacks the pigment cells, mistaking them for foreign invaders.

Worldwide, the incidence of Vitiligo is reported to be 1 to 2 per cent. In India, it is around 4 to 5 per cent, while in some parts of Rajasthan and Gujarat it is as high as 5 to 8 per cent, as per the government data.

Lukoskin has been developed after research by the scientists from the DRDO. The technology to manufacture the drug has been transferred to Delhi based AIMIL Pharmaceuticals. Another herbal drug developed by CSIR lab known as BGR-34, which has already acquired number one slot in an anti-diabetic ayurvedic product category in the IMS Health ranking, is also gaining attention.

"Allopathic medicines mask the disease and the patient feels that he/she is healed. But it is not so, he asserted. Once the medicine is stopped, the disease relapses. Whereas, this is not the case with the herbal-based medicines which works at the root of the disease," said Hemant Pande, a senior DRDO scientist.

In view of the increasing acceptance for alternate traditional medicines and ensure accountability, various government bodies are undertaking research in ancient old formulations and transferring technology to the commercial firms for public benefits.

<http://www.dnaindia.com/delhi/report-drdo-s-ayurvedic-drug-for-leucoderma-attracts-global-buyers-2575087>



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An Ayurvedic Drug Developed by DRDO Scientists Can Cure Vitiligo!

Lukoskin was initially developed in 2012, following many comprehensive research and clinical trials by scientists of the Defence Bio-Energy Research (DIBER) centre at Haldwani, Uttarakhand.

By Lekshmi Priya S

Vitiligo or Leucoderma is a skin condition, which affects close to 2-5 percent of the population in India. Vitiligo is not usually medically harmful, and is non-contagious, but can cause white spots or patches to appear on the skin.

Because vitiligo affects a person's appearance, the social stigma attached to the condition is so severe that it is believed to leave social and psychological scars on those suffering from it.

While there are various kinds of medicines and treatments across the globe, that can help to keep the condition at bay; these do not cure vitiligo and are either costly or single component based, with a very low level of efficacy.

However, DRDO scientists have developed Lukoskin, an Ayurvedic drug, and claim that it can cure vitiligo.

“Allopathic medicines mask the disease, and the patient feels that he/she is healed, but it is not so. Once the patient stops taking the medicine, there is a relapse. However, this is not the case with herb-based medicines,” said Hemant Pande, a senior DRDO scientist, reports DNA.

Lukoskin was initially developed in 2012, following many comprehensive research and clinical trials by scientists of the Defence Bio-Energy Research (DIBER) centre at Haldwani, Uttarakhand.

Comprising of an ointment and an oral liquid, patients consume the drug over a period of 300 to 400 days for effective results. AIMIL Pharmaceuticals in Delhi have been given the authority to manufacture the drug.

Following its presentation at the International Arogya Festival 2017 in Delhi, which was organised by the Ministry of Ayush, Lukoskin is slowly beginning to receive attention from pharmaceutical companies across the globe.

With more people switching to ayurvedic and herbal medicines, the government intends to make the drug accessible to not just Indian markets but international ones as well.

There is a lot that needs to be done to change the social perception towards the skin condition, but we hope that through this medicine, many people who have been subjected to lifelong jeering and shaming can finally live happy, healthy, and vitiligo-free lives.

<https://www.thebetterindia.com/127757/ayurvedic-drug-developed-drdo-scientists-can-cure-vitiligo/>