

Serum on the Lookout for a Monkeypox Vax

Co eyeing partners with potential to develop vaccine, but will wait for 2-3 weeks, says CEO

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New Delhi: Serum Institute of India (SII), the world's largest vaccine maker, has initiated discussions with partners for developing a vaccine against Monkeypox.

SII's CEO Adar Poonawalla told ET he was talking with partners who have the potential to develop the vaccine. He, however, said there was no need to rush and they are assessing the situation.

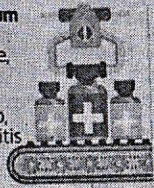
He said SII will wait and see how the situation pans out in the next 2-3 months.

"We are talking to our partners and we are still to assess whether it will be required because there are very few cases at the moment,"

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Over 1.5 billion Total number of doses produced & sold globally by Serum

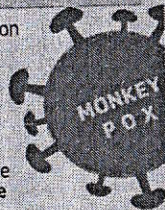
Vaccines Serum produces: Polio vaccine, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Hib, BCG, r-Hepatitis B, Measles, Mumps, etc.



Bavarian Nordic is the only co that has received EU nod for its **Imvanex** vaccine to be marketed

Studies say vaccination against smallpox is effective against Monkeypox

India doesn't have a seed virus to produce the smallpox vaccine



he said. "Since it is not as infectious as Covid-19 and other diseases, so we have to decide whether we

put in investments and efforts towards it. We are already talking to our partners who have the potenti-

al to develop it, and we will wait and see in the next 2-3 months," he told ET.

Pune-based SII is the world's largest vaccine manufacturer by number of doses produced and sold globally (more than 1.5 billion doses) which includes Polio vaccine, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Hib, BCG, r-Hepatitis B, Measles, Mumps, Rubella as well as Pneumococcal and Covid-19 vaccines.

Danish biotechnology company Bavarian Nordic (BAVA.CO) is the only company so far that has received permission from the European Commission for its Imvanex vaccine to be marketed as protection against Monkeypox, as recommended last week by the European Medicines Agency (EMA).

Medical Device Cos Gear Up to Develop Test Kits

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New Delhi: As fears loom large over the spread of Monkeypox virus, several medical device companies have geared up to develop a real-time PCR-based kit for detection of the Monkeypox virus. On Tuesday Genes2Me, a Gurugram based company announced that they have developed a real time PCR based kit for quick detection of Monkeypox virus with a turnaround time of less than 50 minutes.

After over 16,000 cases being reported from 75 countries and territories, the WHO has declared the outbreak a public health emergency of international concern.

Experts at Genes2Me have developed "POX-Q Multiplexed RT-PCR kit" for the detection of the novel virus along with differentiation from Varicella Zoster Virus (Chicken Pox) in a single tube multiplex reaction for mat.

