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Intas launches cancer drug Azadine

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MULTI-speciality pharmaceutical organisation Intas on Monday said it has independently developed azacitidine molecule, which will reduce treatment cost of MDS and AML types of cancer by 80 per cent.

"With the launch of Azadine we further reinforce our commitment towards making quality healthcare affordable and accessible to maximum number of Indians. It will reduce treatment cost of MDS and AML types of cancer by 80 per cent," Intas Pharmaceuticals India head, marketing and sales, Vijayesh Gupta.

It is estimated that 4-5 people per 1,00,000 suffer from MDS (myelodysplastic syndrome) or AML (acute myelogenous leukemia). Data from global epidemiologic studies suggest that the disease burden of MDS in India is likely to be sizable. Also, cytogenetic studies suggest that MDS patients in India get affected by the disease at a younger age and also tend to have a higher risk.

MDS is a type of cancer in which the bone marrow docs not make enough healthy blood cells and there are abnormal (blast) cells in the blood or in the bone marrow. Advanced stages of MDS may lead to AML.

Azacitidine (effective molecule in Azadine) is the only drug, which has been shown to prolong overall survival duration and time to transformation into AML, increase response rate, reduce transfusion burden and improve quality of life.

Company