

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AYUSH  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 171  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2025

**Promotion of integrative cancer care in the country**

**171. Shri Sana Sathish Babu:**

Will the Minister of *Ayush* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is promoting integrative cancer care combining modern medicine with evidence-based Ayush therapies for improving patient outcomes;
- (b) the number of hospitals or cancer centres in the country currently offering integrative or holistic cancer care services under Government programmes;
- (c) whether research has been undertaken to assess the efficacy of Ayush-based adjuvant therapies in cancer management; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and steps being taken to expand access to integrative cancer care, particularly in the State of Andhra Pradesh?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH  
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

(a) & (b) Yes. The research councils namely, Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH), Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy (CCRYN) & Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS) and National Institutes namely, All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) & Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA) under the aegis of Ministry of Ayush are promoting integrative cancer care combining modern medicine with evidence-based Ayush therapies for improving patient outcomes.

Under Centre of Excellence component of Ayurswasthya Yojana of the Ministry of Ayush, following 02 projects are supported for integrative cancer care combining modern medicine with evidence-based Ayush therapies for improving patient outcomes:

- i. Arya Vaidya Sala, Kottakkal project titled, "Setting up CoE in Cancer Research Arya Vaidya Sala, Kottakkal" with total amount of Rs.6,64,45,170/- sanctioned and fund of Rs.5,31,56,136/- is released.

ii. Tata Memorial Centre, (TMC) Mumbai project titled, "Centre of Excellence for Discovery and Development of Ayush Medicine for Cancer Care" with total amount of Rs.9,06,91,262/- sanctioned and fund of Rs. 3,94,10,182/- is released.

The details of ongoing initiative taken by the Ministry are as follows:

- i. The Centre of Integrative Oncology, a joint initiative of the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi and National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research - Indian Council of Medical Research (NICPR-ICMR), Noida, operates an Integrative Cancer Care Unit (ICCU) at AIIA, where patients receive treatment through integrative medical approaches.
- ii. The Centre for Ayurveda and Integrative Oncology (CAIO) has also been established as a collaborative effort between AIIA, the Ministry of Ayush, and NCI-AIIMS Jhajjar. An OPD unit is functioning under this centre, offering services that include Panchakarma therapies.
- iii. Central Ayurveda Research Institute (CARI), CCRAS, Mumbai focusing on cancer research & care.
- iv. Special Cancer Clinic at National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur.
- v. AIIA-Goa is also running an Integrative Oncology Research & Care centre in joint collaboration with Goa Medical College and the Advanced Centre for Treatment, Research and Education in Cancer (ACTREC)-TMC, Mumbai.
- vi. CCRYN in collaboration with PGI Chandigarh under the Collaborative Centre in Mind Body Intervention through Yoga (CCMBIY) is promoting integrative cancer care combining modern medicine with evidence-based Yoga therapies for improving patient outcomes by conducting research on cancer through Yoga.

Further, as per the information received from Directorate of Homoeopathy, Govt. of Kerala, under the State Palliative Care Project in Kerala, the Department of Homoeopathy runs a dedicated 'Pain and Palliative Cancer Care Centre' at Wandoor, Malappuram. Primary palliative care services are offered through 709 Government Homoeopathy Dispensaries and 409 Ayush Primary Health Centres in Kerala delivering home-based care for cancer and chronically ill patients. Secondary palliative care services are also provided in 33 homeopathy hospitals in Kerala with inpatient care and home visits.

(c) & (d) The details of the research studies undertaken to assess the efficacy of Ayush-based adjuvant therapies in cancer management are annexed.

To provide better integrative cancer care in Andhra Pradesh, the CCRH with Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare conducted a pilot project from May 2017 to May 2020 in Krishna district, Andhra Pradesh and Darjeeling, West Bengal. In this project, Homoeopathy and Yoga were used along with the national programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer Diabetes Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS). Also, in Tirupati, the Siddha Clinical Research Unit with Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS) is providing an integrative approach to support cancer patients.

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**Details of research projects undertaken by CCRAS :-**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Title of the project</b>	<b>Participating institute</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Clinical research</b>			
1.	A Pilot Study Evaluating Quality of Life with AYUSH QOL – 2C in Patients of Local Non-Metastatic Breast Cancer Treated with Adjuvant Chemotherapy/Radiotherapy and Correlating it with Molecular Marker.	AIIMS, New Delhi	Delhi
2.	Evaluating Quality of Life with Ayush QOL 2C in Patients of Non-Metastatic Breast Cancer as an Adjuvant to Chemotherapy.	St. John's Medical College, Bengaluru	Karnataka
3.	Effect of “Ayush QOL-2C” (Ayurvedic coded drug) in stage III & IV Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer to prevent side effects of Chemotherapy – A Randomized Phase II Feasibility & Tolerability study.	Bhagwan Mahaveer Cancer Hospital & Research centre, Jaipur	Rajasthan
4.	A phase II trial to study efficacy, toxicity and immunomodulatory effect of Carctol-S in high grade serous epithelial ovarian cancer at first serological relapse.	CARI, Mumbai in collaboration with TMC, Mumbai	Maharashtra
5.	An open label parallel arm randomized controlled trial to assess the efficacy of ayurvedic medicines in the management of Oral submucosal fibrosis in a tertiary care hospital at central India.	CARI, Mumbai in collaboration with AIIMS Nagpur	Maharashtra
6.	An evaluation of safety, Efficacy and treatment Adherence of Gandoosha oral oil Retention Procedure on Oral dental Health in apparently healthy adult population -An assessor blind exploratory Randomized controlled study.	Indian Dental association and CCRAS-CARI Mumbai	Maharashtra
7.	Assessment of Prakriti (Ayurvedic body constitution) of patients with Cervical and Ovarian cancers.	CARI, Mumbai in collaboration with Tata Memorial Hospital (TMH), Mumbai.	Maharashtra
8.	Study of Association between Prakriti and Outcomes of early and locally advanced breast cancer.	CARI, Mumbai in collaboration with ACTREC, TMC, Mumbai	Maharashtra
<b>Preclinical</b>			
9.	Understanding Mechanistic role of CARAF and CAGHE as immunomodulatory and anti-cancer compounds against pre-clinical models of Leukemia, lymphoma, Myeloma, Lung and Breast cancer.	CARI, Mumbai & ACTREC Mumbai	Maharashtra
10.	Understanding Mechanistic role of Carctol-S as an immunomodulatory and anti-cancer formulation against Ovarian Cancer.	CARI, Mumbai & ACTREC Mumbai	Maharashtra

11.	Anticancer Potential and molecular mechanism of Rasa Sindhoor on ovarian cancer cells.	CARI, Kolkata & CSIR – IICB Kolkata	West Bengal
12.	Evaluation of cytotoxicity, Pharmacokinetics, Anticancer activity, detailed molecular mechanisms of BhallatakadiModaka in In-vitro (2D & 3D culture) and In-vivo tumor xenograft models.	CARI, Kolkata & CSIR – IICB Kolkata	West Bengal
13.	Anti-cancer activity of Chaulmoogra oil and Shwetha Sarshapachurna in the treatment of epidermal carcinoma of skin in experimental mice.	CSMCARI Chennai	Tamil Nadu
14.	Evaluation of anti-cancerous potential, in-silico pharmacological analysis and molecular mechanism of Kanchanarguggulu in ovarian cancer $\mu$ Tumor spheroids, and in in vivo models.	CARI, Kolkata & CSIR – IICB Kolkata	West Bengal
15.	Chemo preventive Effects of <i>Opuntia elatior</i> Fruits Against Chemotherapy-Induced Toxicity in Ovarian Cancer Pre-Clinical Models.	CARI, Kolkata & CSIR – IICB Kolkata	West Bengal
16.	Study of selected Ayurvedic herbs for their anti-angiogenic potential and toxicity profile in zebrafish embryo model for cancer management.	RARI, Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh
17.	Assessment of Anti- Aging, Antimutagenic and cancer chemoprevention potential of Swarna Bhasma in Drosophila Melanogaster.	CARI, Mumbai & SSPU Pune	Maharashtra
18.	Screening of medicinal plants on Anticancer Activity.	RARI Pune	Maharashtra

**Details of research projects undertaken by CCRH: -**

Sl. No.	Title of the project	Place/State
<b>Fundamental and Basic Research</b>		
<i>Ongoing:</i>		
1	Role of Silicea in cancer regression: A mechanistic study.	Bose Institute, Kolkata, West Bengal
2	Studies of homoeopathic medicines as nano-formulations in application to colon cancer therapy and insides into cancer cell death.	JIS University, Kolkata.
3	Determination of the mechanism of action of clinically effective homoeopathic formulation in lung malignancies	Cochi University of Science and Technology
4	Deciphering the molecular mechanisms of different homoeopathic medicines to overcome stemness in chemo-resistant triple negative breast cancer cells by targeting the miRNA circuitry: Phase 1 Approach	Jadavpur University, Kolkata.
5	Efficacy assessment of homoeopathic medicines on stratified epithelial cancer growth and gene expression profiles in cellular models: A multimodal approach.	IEST, Shibpur, Howrah
6	Identification of homoeopathic formulations with anti-cervical cancer and anti- HPV activity (phase ii): Assessment of Berberis Aquafolium and Berberis vulgaris- In-vivo.	University of Delhi, Delhi
7	Molecular characterization of Homoeopathic Medical Impact on Cervical Cancer Progression	IEST, Shibpur, Howrah
<i>Concluded:</i>		

1	Green synthesis of silver Nanoparticles using various plant based Homeopathic Mother tinctures and evaluation of the efficacy of the Homeopathic drug capped Silver Nanoparticles as potential anti-bacterial, anti-oxidant, anti-inflammatory and anticancer agents.	IEST, Shibpur, Howrah
2	In Vitro Assessment of Homeopathic Potencies of Hydrastis Canadensis on Hormone-Dependent and Independent Breast Cancer. Homeopathy 2020; 109(04): 198-206.	AMITY University, Noida, U.P.
3	Contribution of ROS p53 feedback loop in thuja induced apoptosis of mammary epithelial carcinoma cells. Oncology Reports 2014 Jan 24.	Bose Institute, Kolkata
4	Calcarea carbonica induces apoptosis in cancer cells in p53-dependent manner via an immuno-modulatory circuit. BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine 2013; 13:230.	Bose Institute, Kolkata
5	Sulphur alters NFκB-p300 cross-talk in favour of p53-p300 to induce apoptosis in non-small cell lung carcinoma. International Journal of Oncology 2015 June 22.	Bose Institute, Kolkata
6	Evaluation of Therapeutic Potential of Selected Plant-Derived Homeopathic Medicines for their Action against Cervical Cancer. Homeopathy 2023; 112(04): 262-274.	Delhi University
7	Impact of homoeopathic medicines on Breast and Prostate cancer.	AMITY University, Noida, U.P.
<b>Clinical Research</b>		
<i>Ongoing:</i>		
1	A pilot study evaluating role of Homoeopathic medicine in non-small lung Cancer patients as adjuvant treatment to chemotherapy/radiotherapy and correlating with Molecular Profiling (Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, GoI, New Delhi.	AIIMS New Delhi
2	Management of Chemotherapy and radiotherapy induced Oral Mucositis head and neck cancer with add on homoeopathy to standard care versus the standard care- A Randomized Controlled Clinical Trial.	MAIDS, New Delhi
3	A multicentric, double blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, phase III study to evaluate the role of potentised (tautopathy) form of chemotherapy in patients to determine the reduction in the pre-identified side-effects of non-Potentised Chemotherapy Drugs Cisplatin, Docetaxel, Paclitaxel, Carboplatin, Epirubicin, Gemcitabine, Cyclophosphamide and Adriamycin on cancer patients to enhance tolerance to chemotherapy regimen.	Apollo Hospital and VS Hospital, Chennai
<i>Concluded:</i>		
1	Phase II study to assess the safety and efficacy of using potentised form of chemotherapy.	Apollo Hospital, Chennai
2	Evaluation of homoeopathy on side effects of chemotherapy in cancer patients.	Marwari Hospital, Kolkata

3	Clinical evaluation of homeopathic medicines along with Iscador therapy in managing malignant diseases. CCRH. CR Studies series III, 2010, pg. 24-35.	New Delhi
4	Homoeopathic treatment as an add-on therapy for Pain Management in Cancer Patients: A Prospective, Randomized, Exploratory study.	Dr. B.R.A. IRCH, AIIMS, New Delhi

**Details of research projects undertaken by CCRUM: -**

Sl. No	Project Title
<i>Ongoing:</i>	
1	Local application of Novel Unani gel/Paste formulation for medical management of Oral submucous fibrosis (OSF): A randomized controlled clinical trial.
2	Investigate the Therapeutic and Chemo-Sensitizing Efficacy of Unani Pharmacopoeial formulation Dawa-ul-Kurkum on Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma.
3	Studies on Evaluating the Anti-Fibrotic Potential of a Unani Formulation (Majusi Formula).
4	Anticancer efficacy and molecular basis of Dawa-ul-Kurkum on the tumorigenesis of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma.
5	Exploring the anti-cancer potential of a Unani Drug toot-e-siyah (Morusnigra) on mice models.
6	Evaluation of Anti-oxidant and Anticancer Effect of Unani medicine against the Liver cancer.
7	Chemotherapeutic effect of a selected Unani Medicine in xenograft mouse model of lung cancer.
8	Formulation, Development and Preclinical evaluation of novel Unani dispersible tablets for Immunomodulatory activity and as adjuvant to Anticancer therapy.
9	Preclinical and Immunotherapeutic assessment of MajoonNajah an Unani Formulation in Cervical Carcinoma.
10	Study and validation of the anticancer potential of prominent Unani medicines ArqMakoh and ArqKasni and their nano formulations against liver carcinoma.
<i>Completed:</i>	
1	Delineating the Anti-cancer potential and mechanism of action of Unani medicinal formulation Itrifal-e-Aftimoon in Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia.
2	Evaluation of the anticancer potential of a Unani pharmacopoeial formulation, “Dawa-ul-kurmum”.
3	Phytochemical standardization and evaluation of anti-cancer and immune-modulatory activity of Unani formulation, Itrifalghudadi.
4	Evaluation of Aftimoon (CuscutareflexaRoxb.) Plant and its Seeds on Different Human Cancer (Sartan) Cell lines.

**Details of research projects undertaken by CCRYN: -**

Sl. No.	Project Title
1	A randomized controlled trial to assess the impact of yoga on health-related quality of life in hematopoietic cell transplant recipients.
2	Reporting and data-sharing level of randomized controlled trials in Yoga for cancer patients