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Development of vaccines, the most cost effective approach for health problems

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Vaccines used for immunization of children have brought down their mortality impressively. These have been the most cost effective approach for the Govt. authorities in India and elsewhere. The same has happened for the dramatic reduction of mothers dying of tetanus following delivery. Vaccines have enabled the elimination of Poliomyelitis in many countries including India. It was thanks to a vaccine that eradication of small-pox was achieved. I will share the way that we developed an immunotherapeutic vaccine for leprosy. This vaccine based on non-pathogenic mycobacteria has been sequenced and named after me (Pran) and the National Institute of Immunology (NII) from where the trials were conducted. *Mycobacterium indicus pranii* (MiP) is finding additional uses in treatment of Category-II, difficult to treat tuberculosis and myelomas. It is a potent invigorator of immune responses and will be used as adjuvant in a potential Birth Control Vaccine.

Biography

Prof. G.P.Talwar is the Director Research Talwar Research Foundation. Amongst many he received the National Award in Bio-Medicine, Basanti Devi Amirchand Prize of ICMR, National Lecturer UGC, JC Bose Award Life Sciences, FICCI Award, Sunderlal Hora and Golden Jubilee Commemoration Medals of INSA, Jalma Trust Prize in Leprosy, Rameshwardas Birla National Award, Glaxo oration NAMS, Ranbaxy Research Award, Mastrianni-Segal Award, Friedrich von Siemens Lecture. Prof. Talwar was conferred Padma Bhushan by President of India & Officier de la Legion d'Honneur by President of France.

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