

Ixora Biosciences Pvt Ltd

Ixora Biosciences Pvt Ltd is a Bangalore based biotechnology company, located in the Institute of Bioinformatics and Applied Biotechnology (IBAB) incubation facility. It was established in August, 2008 by a group of scientists with expertise in academic and industrial research in the area of biotechnology.

The vision of Ixora Biosciences Pvt Ltd is to improve healthcare through the applications of modern biology to clinical sciences. Our aim is to develop diagnostics and therapeutics for important unmet medical needs using our expertise in cell biology, molecular biology, bioinformatics and clinical research. Our major focus areas are biomarker discovery, drug discovery and regenerative medicine.

Biomarker discovery: Personalization of medicine to suite the unique requirements of an individual based on his/her genetic constitution and environmental influences will be an important future direction for medical sciences. There is a major requirement to identify biomarkers for the development of personalized medicine for cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and central nervous system diseases. Our aim is to develop novel biomarkers for these diseases and use them along with conventional biochemical disease indicators for diagnosis, prognosis and targeted therapy.

Drug discovery: We would like to develop a drug discovery program to find new drugs for diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular diseases and central nervous system diseases. Biochemical, molecular and cell based assays that are physiologically relevant to the diseases will be employed. Compounds to be screened will be from natural sources and from computer aided drug designing. In addition to in-house innovations we would like to explore collaborative and contract research opportunities.

Regenerative medicine: The focus of regenerative medicine is to induce repair or replace damaged tissue or organ in the human body. Specifically, India presently has a huge need for artificial skin due to its large population of diabetic and burn patients.

Artificial skin will be developed using biopolymers and human cells to treat specifically diabetic foot ulcers, venous ulcers and burn injuries. In addition to treating patients, artificial skin and artificial tissues will provide physiologically relevant and elegant *in vitro* models for drug discovery and in cosmetics research as an alternative to animals.

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