

Zydus Research Centre to host International Symposium on Advances in Diabetes Therapy

January 25, 2007

Zydus Research Centre, the dedicated research arm of the Zydus Group will be hosting the Ramanbhai Foundation 3rd International Symposium on Advances in Diabetes Therapy – Basic Science and Clinical Aspects from the 1st to the 4th of February, 2007.

25 internationally acclaimed scientists, researchers and academicians from Sweden, United States of America, Japan, Switzerland, Germany, France and India will be converging at Ahmedabad to share the latest advances in diabetes therapy. More than 300 delegates from India and abroad are expected to participate in the symposium which is being held under the aegis of the Ramanbhai Foundation and supported by Zydus Cadila.

The panel of speakers who would be addressing the symposium include **Dr. Michael Czech**, *Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Massachusetts*, **Dr. Richard DiMarchi**, *Professor of Chemistry and the Jack and Linda Gill Distinguished Chair in Biomolecular Science, Indiana University, USA*, **Dr. Walter Wahli**, *Founding Director, Centre for Integrative Genomics, Switzerland*, **Dr. Juleen Zierath**, *Professor of Physiology, Department of Molecular Medicine and Surgery, Karolinska Institute, Sweden*, **Dr. Bernard Thorens**, *Professor of Physiology, University of Lausanne*, to name a few.

India is fast emerging as the diabetes capital of the world, accounting for 35 million of the estimated 150 million diabetic patients worldwide. As per WHO estimates, the number of diabetics worldwide is expected to touch 300 million by 2025, with India being the worst affected.

Studies indicate that diabetes can turn fatal and lead to complications such as coronary artery disease, peripheral vascular disease, neuropathy, retinopathy, nephropathy, etc. People with diabetes are 25 times more likely to develop blindness, 17 times more likely to develop kidney disease, 30-40 times more likely to undergo amputation, two to four times more likely to develop myocardial infarction and twice as likely to suffer a stroke than non-diabetics.

An international symposium such as this, helps bring together experts from both the academia and industry, who are working on different ways and means of fighting the diabetes epidemic through new therapies and clinical interventions.

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Zydus Research Centre had first organised this international research symposium in 2003 on the theme: 'Recent Trends in Pharmaceutical Sciences'. The objective was to create a platform for research scientists and professionals to exchange views and insights on current developments. Since then it has been held every two years. Scientists, academicians and experts from across the world converged once again in 2005 at ZRC to share their thoughts on the 'Role of Genomics and Proteomics.'

The Zydus Research Centre which spearheads Zydus Cadila's research programme has a team of over 200 scientists engaged in NCE research. The Centre has been building a promising pipeline of new molecular entities which includes ZYH1, the NME to treat metabolic disorders which is in phase II trials, ZYI1 – the NME to treat pain which is ready for Phase II trials and ZYH2, the NME to treat diabetes which is in Phase I trials. The centre has also filed an IND for ZY O1 to treat obesity and related disorders.
