



## Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell Therapy

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- The 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 was a historic day for Tata Memorial Hospital, IIT Bombay team and cancer care in India as the first CAR-T cell therapy (a type of gene therapy) was done. The CAR-T cells were designed and manufactured at Bioscience and Bioengineering (BSBE) department of IIT Bombay.
- The **Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell (CAR-T) therapy** has emerged as a breakthrough in cancer treatment. Clinical trials conducted globally **have shown promising results in end stage patients, especially in patients suffering from Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia.**
- Till now this technology was not available in India. CAR-T cell therapy costs 3-4 crore (INR). The manufacturing complexity is a major reason for the therapy cost. In order to promote and support development of CAR-T cell technology against cancer and other diseases, BIRAC and DBT have taken initiatives.
- **The CAR-T cells were developed with support from Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council through National Biopharma Mission.** BIRAC is a not-for-profit Section 8, Schedule B, Public Sector Enterprise, set up by Department of Biotechnology.

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