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## HUL-Govt Tieup to Study Vax Efficacy



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**Sagar Malviya** >> 8

GO TO FUND THE PROJECT AND LEND ITS RESEARCH FACILITY

# HUL Ties Up with the Centre for Study on Vaccine Efficacy

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**Mumbai:** Hindustan Unilever has partnered the Indian government for an academic-based research study which will help understand the factors impacting Covid-19 vulnerability and vaccine efficacy in the country.

The country's biggest consumer goods firm will fund as well as lend its research facility to help understand immune responses to SARS-CoV-2 among vaccinated people. The research is being enabled by the office of the principal scientific advisor to the government.

"Vaccine efficacy is one of the questions foremost on people's minds today. Partnering with the best scientific minds of the country, and backed by world-class research, this study aims to understand not just vaccine immunogenicity but also to obtain deeper insights on whether factors like nutritional deficiencies or the skin's natural immunity have a role to play in immune response," said HUL chairman Sanjiv Mehta.

The research is one of the first public-private collaborations between industry and academia for Co-

vid-19 named VISION — Vaccine Immunology Studies-Indian Outbreak-response Network. The platform includes National Centre for Biological Sciences, Institute for Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine and Indian Institutes for Science Education and Research. In addition, National Chemical Laboratory and clinical research centres in Bengaluru, Baptist Hospital and St John's Research Institute, Vellore's Christian Medical College and KEM Hospital and Research Centre Symbiosis Hospital and Research Centre in Pune are also involved.

HUL will provide extra analytical and data support through R&D scientists to the partners. The research will have 1,200 participants, and it is expected to be completed in a year. "Now that government has made CSR for research funding available, how do you leverage CSR to create? We would fund this out of CSR and make data public. It's available to us as well as anybody else to use data in terms of helping prevent third or fourth wave," said Vibhav Sanzgiri executive director, R&D at HUL.

## Hand-in-Hand

Research enabled by office of principal scientific advisor to govt

### Partners include...

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