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Biotechnology & Health:

Cancer Treatment Breakthrough

A new breakthrough treatment for bladder cancer has been approved for use in the UK's National Health Service (NHS). The treatment, a combination of enfortumab vedotin and pembrolizumab, has been hailed as one of the most promising advances in decades.

The therapy has been shown to double the survival rate for patients with metastatic bladder cancer, increasing life expectancy from about 1.5 years to over 2.5 years. It also significantly extends the time the cancer is kept at bay and results in fewer side effects compared to traditional chemotherapy.

This new treatment's effectiveness was demonstrated in a global Phase 3 clinical trial, where it led to a complete response (no detectable cancer) in nearly 30% of patients, compared to 12.5% on chemotherapy.

Biotechnology & Life Sciences in India

The Indian state of Telangana is positioning itself as a global leader in the life sciences sector. It is preparing to unveil a next-generation life sciences policy aimed at attracting large-scale investments.

Telangana's life sciences ecosystem is currently valued at over \$80 billion, and the state is home to more than 250 U.S. FDA-approved sites, more than any other region in the world. The new policy is part of an ambitious plan to grow this economy to \$250 billion by 2030.

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MCQS

1. What type of cancer is the new breakthrough treatment, a combination of enfortumab vedotin and pembrolizumab, for?

- A) Lung cancer
- B) Bladder cancer
- C) Skin cancer
- D) Blood cancer

Answer: B) Bladder cancer

The news clearly states that the new breakthrough treatment, a combination of enfortumab vedotin and pembrolizumab, is a major advance for patients with metastatic bladder cancer.

2. What is the primary goal of Telangana's new life sciences policy?

- A) To reduce the number of U.S. FDA-approved sites in the state.
- B) To decrease the value of its life sciences economy to \$80 billion.
- C) To attract large-scale investments and grow the state's life sciences economy to \$250 billion by 2030.
- D) To limit the number of new biotechnology companies in the region.

Answer: C) To attract large-scale investments and grow the state's life sciences economy to \$250 billion by 2030.

The new policy is part of Telangana's ambitious plan to further strengthen its position as a global leader in the life sciences sector by attracting investments and setting a target of a \$250 billion economy by 2030.

3. What was a key finding from the global Phase 3 clinical trial for the new bladder cancer treatment?

- A) It was less effective than traditional chemotherapy.
- B) It led to a complete response in a small percentage of patients.
- C) It doubled the survival rate for patients with metastatic bladder cancer.
- D) It caused more severe side effects than other treatments.

Answer: C) It doubled the survival rate for patients with metastatic bladder cancer.

The news highlights the treatment's significant impact, noting that it has been shown to double the survival rate, increasing the average life expectancy for patients from 1.5 years to over 2.5 years.

4. What unique distinction does Telangana's life sciences ecosystem hold, according to the provided news?

- A) It has the highest number of biotech startups in Asia.
- B) It is the only region in the world to host more than 250 U.S. FDA-approved sites.
- C) It has the largest number of life sciences companies in a single state in India.
- D) It is the first state in India to develop a life sciences policy.

Answer: B) It is the only region in the world to host more than 250 U.S. FDA-approved sites.

The news specifically mentions that Telangana's life sciences ecosystem is home to more than 250 U.S. FDA-approved sites, which is more than any other region in the world.

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