

## Biotechnology & Health:

### Global Health Partnerships and Advancements

An important collaboration has been announced between the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) and LSU Health New Orleans in the U.S. to accelerate global healthcare innovation. This partnership aims to combine LSU Health's clinical research expertise with IIT Madras's technological capabilities in areas like informatics and engineering. The collaboration will focus on developing AI-powered applications, low-cost diagnostics, and smart medical devices to improve healthcare accessibility worldwide. A key objective for LSU Health is to secure a National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation for its cancer center through this alliance.

In pharmaceutical news, the anti-amyloid beta monoclonal antibody drug LEQEMBI® (lecanemab) has launched in Germany, making it available in the EU for the first time. The drug was launched in Austria on August 25. This marks a significant milestone for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease in Europe.

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### Key Trends and Emerging Technologies

The life sciences industry is increasingly optimistic, with a strong focus on digital transformation and the integration of new technologies. A Deloitte survey indicates that a majority of life sciences executives are optimistic about growth in 2025. Key trends driving this optimism include:

**Artificial Intelligence (AI):** AI is becoming more integrated into drug discovery, research and development, and clinical settings. It is being used to analyze complex genomic data and guide personalized medicine.

**Precision Medicine:** This approach, which tailors treatments to an individual's genetic makeup and other biological characteristics, continues to gain momentum. Personalized cancer vaccines and cell therapies are major areas of focus.

**Gene Editing and Therapies:** Advancements in CRISPR and other gene-editing technologies are moving from the lab to the clinic, with new treatments for rare diseases in development.

**Digital Health Tools:** The use of wearable devices and other digital health tools is becoming more mainstream, offering new ways to monitor and manage health.

### Regulatory and Other Updates

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has extended the deadline for proposals for its "Centre for Advanced Research" program to September 8, 2025. This program, under its Extramural Research scheme, is seeking research proposals in emerging fields of medical and health sciences. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has also announced a new user access policy for its biofoundries and biomanufacturing hubs, effective September 1, 2025, to support indigenous biomanufacturing.



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## MCQS

**1. What is the primary objective for LSU Health New Orleans in its collaboration with IIT Madras?**

- a) To develop low-cost diagnostics for rural areas.
- b) To establish a new research center in India.
- c) To secure a National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation.
- d) To train IIT Madras students in clinical research.

**Answer:** c) To secure a National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation.

The text explicitly states, "A key objective for LSU Health is to secure a National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation for its cancer center through this alliance."

**2. Which of the following drugs, an anti-amyloid beta monoclonal antibody, has recently launched in Germany and Austria for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease?**

- a) CRISPR
- b) LEQEMBI® (lecanemab)
- c) Aspirin
- d) Ibuprofen

**Answer:** b) LEQEMBI® (lecanemab)

The provided text mentions that the anti-amyloid beta monoclonal antibody drug LEQEMBI® (lecanemab) has been launched in Germany and Austria, marking its first availability in the EU.

**3. According to the Deloitte survey, what is the outlook for the life sciences industry in 2025?**

- a) Pessimistic due to regulatory challenges.
- b) Stagnant with no significant changes.
- c) Optimistic about growth.
- d) Focused on traditional pharmaceuticals only.







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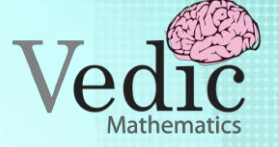
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**Answer:** c) Optimistic about growth.

The text states, "A Deloitte survey indicates that a majority of life sciences executives are optimistic about growth in 2025."

**4.The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has extended the deadline for proposals for which program?**

- a) "Indigenous Biomanufacturing Hubs"
- b) "Digital Health Tools Program"
- c) "Centre for Advanced Research"
- d) "National Cancer Institute"

**Answer:** c) "Centre for Advanced Research"

The text notes, "The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has extended the deadline for proposals for its "Centre for Advanced Research" program."

**5.Which emerging technology is being used to analyze complex genomic data and guide personalized medicine, according to the provided text?**

- a) CRISPR
- b) Wearable devices
- c) Digital health tools
- d) Artificial Intelligence (AI)

**Answer:** d) Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The section on "Key Trends and Emerging Technologies" highlights that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being used to "analyze complex genomic data and guide personalized medicine."

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