

Guest Lecture Report
On
"Antivirals Development for SARS-CoV-2 and its Variants"
Conducted on 29th November 2023 at 10.00 AM at RA Seminar Hall.

The lecture featured Prof. Siddappa Byrareddy, Ph.D., Professor & Vice Chair of Research at the Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Neuroscience, Durham Research Centre, Nebraska Medical Centre, Omaha, NE, USA, on "Antivirals Development for SARS-CoV-2 and its Variants," which took place on November 29, 2023, at 10:00 AM in the RA Seminar Hall

The guest lecture aimed to provide an in-depth understanding of the ongoing advancements and challenges in the development of antivirals targeting SARS-CoV-2 and its variants, a subject of critical importance in the current global health landscape.

Prof. Byrareddy commenced the lecture by emphasizing the urgency and significance of antiviral development in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. He provided a thorough overview of the structural and functional aspects of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and its variants, laying the foundation for a comprehensive understanding of the subsequent discussions.

The speaker then delved into the various strategies employed in antiviral drug development, presenting both traditional and innovative approaches. Prof. Byrareddy shared insights into the latest advancements in drug discovery, underlining the importance of a multi-faceted approach that integrates computational modeling, high-throughput screening, and molecular biology techniques. This information proved invaluable to the teaching faculty, M. Pharm students, and Ph.D. Scholars in attendance, providing a holistic view of the complexities involved in the drug development process.

Moreover, Prof. Byrareddy addressed the specific challenges posed by SARS-CoV-2 variants and elucidated how these challenges necessitate continual adaptation in antiviral development strategies. He presented recent case studies and breakthroughs in therapeutics targeting specific variants, showcasing the dynamic nature of ongoing research in the field. This real-world application of knowledge enriched the audience's understanding of the practical implications of antiviral research.

The interactive session following the lecture facilitated meaningful discussions and clarifications. Attendees had the opportunity to pose questions, seek elaboration on complex concepts, and engage in a constructive dialogue with Prof. Byrareddy. This exchange of ideas not only enhanced the learning experience but also encouraged a collaborative approach to addressing the challenges in antiviral research.

In conclusion, the Guest Lecture on "Antivirals Development for SARS-CoV-2 and its Variants" by Prof. Siddappa Byrareddy was a resounding success, contributing significantly to the academic enrichment of our teaching faculty, M. Pharm students, and Ph.D. Scholars. The event served as a catalyst for inspiration and further exploration in the critical field of antiviral research.



We extend our sincere gratitude to Prof. Byrareddy for sharing his wealth of expertise and for his contribution to advancing knowledge in the Department of Pharmacology. We look forward to more such enlightening collaborations and events that foster academic excellence and research advancement.

Sincerely,

Prof Saravana Babu C
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