

FDC introduces two variants of favipiravir drug

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Mumbai based pharma major, FDC Limited has announced its foray in the fight against COVID-19 by launching two variants of the COVID-19 drug, Favipiravir – PiFLU and Favenza – which will be used to treat mild to moderate cases of COVID-19 in India.

With the third largest number of cases globally, at close to three million, and a daily increase rate that is on the rise, the Indian economy and populace have both seen major hits over the past two quarters.

Earlier this year, the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) approved the use of Favipiravir, an off patent, oral anti-viral drug that has been shown to quicken clinical recovery in COVID-19 patients with mild to moderate symptoms. It is a broad spectrum anti-viral agent, and selectively inhibits RNA polymerase of influenza and SARCOV-2 virus and prevents viral replication.

Commenting on the development, Spokesperson of FDC Limited, Mayank Tikka said, *“With over 2.7 million cases of COVID-19, now is the time to provide healthcare warriors in our country with viable affordable options to fight the battle against this disease. Early diagnosis and treatment will help in arresting the deteriorating condition of patients, and we will be working with the government and healthcare fraternity to make Favenza and Piflu available across the country.”*

FDC's PiFLU and Favenza is currently available across the country. FDC has also increased the production and availability of its brand of balanced electrolyte drink 'Enerzal and Electral' as according to ASPEN guidelines, 03 litres of fluid intake in a day (60 to 120 ml in every 30 min) helps in speedy recovery of people who are home quarantined.