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Timeline

Fall armyworm detected in NT

5:09 PM AEDT

TRC's winter watering times start from April 1; restrictions still in force

5:08 PM AEDT

Storyfest writing competition open for residents aged 8-18

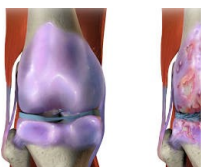
5:06 PM AEDT

Update on divestment of Australian life insurance business

5:06 PM AEDT

Police seek help to find missing boy at Mount Isa

5:02 PM AEDT



"5 Herbs that Stop Knee

Ad Nutreance

Overcoming carbon loss from farming in peatlands

5:02 PM AEDT

New research to uncover effects of COVID-19 on mental health

4:59 PM AEDT

Police search for missing boy Oliver

Health APRIL 1, 2020 10:19 AM AEDT

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Cancer drug investigated as anti-inflammatory for lethal conditions including COVID-19

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An existing cancer drug could potentially modify a severe hyper-inflammatory 'storm' associated with some conditions, which may include the COVID-19 virus, according to Hudson Institute researchers.

Dr Michael Gantier

The researchers joined forces with cancer drug developer, Noxopharm, and discovered that the oncology company's prostate cancer medication idronoxil could block the production of several pro-inflammatory proteins, known as cytokines.

These proteins are believed to be involved in a 'cytokine storm', which causes a severe inflammatory response believed to be responsible for most of COVID-19 deaths.

The discovery in pre-clinical cell models is an encouraging development towards human clinical trials as a potential COVID-19 treatment.

Hudson Institute researcher Dr Michael Gantier, Research Group Head of the Nucleic Acids and Innate Immunity Laboratory, identified the previously unknown functions of idronoxil in blocking the cytokines, in his laboratory research.

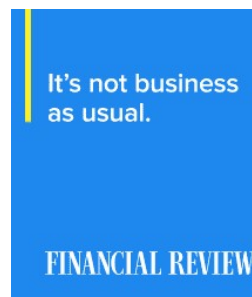
“Our laboratory studies indicate that idronoxil inhibits inflammatory cytokines produced in the context of tissue damage seen in acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS),” Dr Gantier said.

“Unlike strategies selectively targeting specific cytokines, our findings suggest that idronoxil blocks the process of inflammatory cytokine production, along with other key influencers of organ failure,” he said. “Our continued work is focused on linking what idronoxil does in cell models, and what actually happens in critical COVID-19 patients.”

How does COVID-19 cause deaths?

The danger with COVID-19 infection lies in its progression from a mild disease, into an overwhelming and lethal later-stage condition following a severe inflammatory response from the body's immune system. This can lead to ARDS, respiratory, heart and kidney failure, blood clotting problems and septic shock.

The triggers of the severe hyper-inflammatory response in some COVID-19 patients is not fully understood.



Byrne

4:59 PM AEDT

Whereabouts sought – Steven James MITCHELL

4:58 PM AEDT

Perth property market showed positive signs in March

4:55 PM AEDT

**20 Ingenious Inventions**

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Influenza vaccines released for 2020 season

4:54 PM AEDT

Reduction in NBN broadband complaints

4:53 PM AEDT

Energy cost relief for Tasmanians

4:53 PM AEDT

JobKeeper Payment for employers and employees

4:52 PM AEDT

Responding to COVID-19 challenge in Pacific

4:48 PM AEDT

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Rough sleepers in Perth need accommodation to prevent COVID-19 taking hold

4:44 PM AEDT

New truck stop protocols will support truckies

4:42 PM AEDT

Series of break-ins at Blackwood, South Australia

4:30 PM AEDT

Cooperative male dolphins match tempo of each other's calls

4:27 PM AEDT

A message from Austrade to our international education partners (31 March 2020)

4:26 PM AEDT

Jayden Okunbor and Corey Harawira-Naera statement

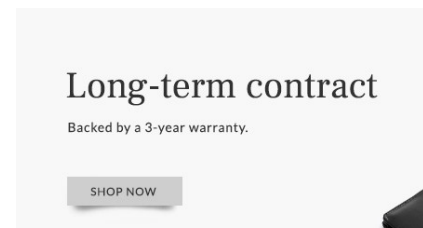
4:18 PM AEDT

Fighting COVID-19 together: Connecting nursing job seekers and

However, it is known to be associated with a 'cytokine storm'. Normally, several proteins known as pro-inflammatory cytokines help to regulate a healthy inflammatory process in the body to protect against infection or illness. However, in a 'cytokine storm', their levels are excessively high in the blood. One key cytokine known to be a primary driver of the process is interleukin-6 (IL-6).

Next steps

In an [announcement to the Australia Stock Exchange \(ASX\)](#) on Wednesday, 1 April 2020, Noxopharm said it was investigating funding sources for a clinical study to evaluate the use of idronoxil in patients at risk of developing COVID-19 associated ARDS and multi-organ failure.



In addition, a provisional patent concerning idronoxil and mechanisms of action relevant to the treatment of viral- and bacterial-associated hyperacute inflammatory conditions, including septic shock has been filed.

Idronoxil, the active ingredient in Noxopharm's prostate cancer drug Veyonda, is a strong inhibitor of IL-6. Dr Gantier and his team's findings highlight the drug's potential to act on a wider range of proteins driving the cytokine storm.

Noxopharm chief executive Dr Graham Kelly said idronoxil would be formulated in an oral form called NOX-19 to distinguish it from Veyonda.

"The intention of the study is to see if providing NOX-19 to patients with early-stage organ damage can block the rapid development of a cytokine storm and prevent sepsis and ARDS," he said. "The hope is that this may result in fewer patients being admitted to the ICU and a reduction in the number of patients that will need ventilators. This would greatly reduce the pressure on hospitals."

/Public Release. View in full [here](#).

Tags: anti-inflammatory, Australia, cancer drug, clinical study, clinical trials, covid-19, Discovery, Hudson Institute, immunity, infection, oncology, production, prostate, prostate cancer, research, stock exchange

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employers

4:17 PM AEDT

Support for older residents and residents with a disability

4:16 PM AEDT

High street benefits from £22 billion grants and business rates package

4:13 PM AEDT

Keeping Tasmanians safe and secure

4:13 PM AEDT



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