

Pasteur Institute of flawless diagnosis of monkeypox

Social Desk

Iran's Pasteur Institute has achieved an excellent grade in a skill test program designed to assess the ability of reference laboratories worldwide to diagnose and identify monkeypox. The program was conducted by a laboratory approved by the World Health Organization in Germany, IRNA reported. The Infectious Diseases Rapid Response Team of the Pasteur Institute of Iran, responsible for overseeing 14 laboratories that conduct screening tests for orthopoxviruses, has received recognition from the World Health Organization for its capabilities in diagnosing monkeypox cases. This acknowledgment has instilled confidence in the country regarding the quality of the

institute's performance.

As one of the leading laboratories in this field, the Infectious Diseases Rapid Response Team of the Pasteur Institute of Iran demonstrated its global competence by achieving an excellent grade of 100 percent accuracy in the 2023 skill test program. Established in 2006, the Infectious Disease Rapid Response Team's primary objective was to detect outbreaks of infectious diseases and unknown microbial diseases within 48 hours. Over the past 15 years, the team has played a crucial role in promptly identifying and responding to various bacterial and viral outbreaks, including the COVID-19 pandemic and monkeypox. It has become a vital pillar of Iran's healthcare system.



Additionally, the team has prepared and implemented the syndromic care program for infectious diseases under the Ministry of Health. Currently,

the laboratory of the Infectious Diseases Rapid Response Team at the Pasteur Institute of Iran has the capability to conduct comprehensive examinations

for respiratory viral diseases, gastrointestinal diseases, infectious fever and rash, as well as molecular diagnosis of emerging and re-emerging diseases.

Iranian FluGuard provides 30% more immunity



IRNA - An Iranian researcher specializing in medicine and treatment has announced that FluGuard, a quadrivalent recombinant vaccine, provides 30 percent more immunity against influenza. Farhad Madadnejhad explained that FluGuard immunizes the recipient against diseases caused by type A and B influenza viruses.

FluGuard contains pure proteins of recombinant hemagglutinin (HA) from four serotypes of the influenza virus. These serotypes are announced annually for seasonal vaccination against influenza by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Mohammad Amin Ghojadi, the secretary of the Tehran Pharmacists Association, has previously stated that Iran ranks second globally, following the United States, in producing recombinant influenza vaccines. This achievement is attributed to the use of modern technology and collaboration with biotechnology industry elites.

Ghojadi further added that this indigenous vaccine successfully passed all clinical trials years ago and has received approval from the Ministry of Health and various specialists.

This year marks the third year of its production and consumption.

"The proteins are produced in insect cell culture using the baculovirus expression system that is not able to replicate in human cells. Each one of four HA in cell line is being expressed by a baculovirus vector and then being extracted and purified by linear chromatography," according to the official website of FluGuard.

"These proteins act as an antigen to induce humoral immune response hemagglutinin inhibitors antibodies."

FDA cancels online drug sale

Social Desk

In an announcement at the news conference of Iran Pharma 2023, the head of the Food and Drug Administration of Iran revealed the cancellation of the approval for online sales of drugs on drug supply platforms. This decision comes as a response to growing concerns surrounding the illegal and unsupervised sale of drugs

through internet platforms.

The cancellation follows a resolution that had initially favored the deregulation of online drug supply, despite opposition from the country's FDA. However, with support from the vice president, the organization decided to overturn this resolution in order to establish proper regulation and monitoring of drug sales.

Seyyed Heydar Mohammadi explained that the aim of this revocation is not to hinder the supply of medicine through online platforms; rather, it seeks to establish a system that ensures the safe delivery of medications to patients through careful planning and supervision. The decision to cancel the approval for online drug sales platforms was primarily driven

by the fact that drugs were being sold on the internet without the necessary permissions and oversight from the Ministry of Health. The FDA has consistently expressed its opposition to such platforms, as they are often associated with the illegal sale of counterfeit drugs, contraband, and even abortion-related products.

The concerns raised by the FDA

highlight the need for stricter regulatory measures to protect public health and ensure the authenticity, safety, and efficacy of medications available online. By revoking the approval for online drug sales platforms, the FDA aims to establish a more robust framework that safeguards consumers and prevents the circulation of illicit or harmful substances.

Low levels of sea-ice in Antarctica alarming

The sea-ice surrounding Antarctica is well below any previous recorded winter level, satellite data shows, a worrying new benchmark for a region that once seemed resistant to global warming. "It's so far outside anything we've seen, it's almost mind-blowing," says Walter Meier, who monitors sea-ice with the National Snow and Ice Data Center, BBC reported. An unstable Antarctica could have far-reaching consequences, polar experts warn. Antarctica's huge ice expanse regulates the planet's temperature, as the white surface reflects the Sun's energy back into the atmosphere and also cools the water beneath and near it.

Without its ice cooling the planet, Antarctica could transform from Earth's refrigerator to a radiator, experts say. The ice that floats on the Antarctic Ocean's surface now measures less than 17 million square kilometers - that is 1.5 million square kilometers of sea-ice less than the September average, and well below previous winter record lows. That's an area of missing ice about five times the size of the British Isles. Meier is not optimistic that the sea-ice will recover to a significant degree. Scientists are still trying to identify all the factors that led to this year's low sea-ice - but studying trends in Antarctica has historically been challeng-

ing. In a year when several global heat and ocean temperature records have broken, some scientists insist the low sea-ice is the measure to pay attention to. "We can see how much more



vulnerable it is," says Robbie Mallet, of the University of Manitoba, who is based on the Antarctic peninsula.

Already braving isolation, extreme cold and powerful winds, this year's thin sea-ice has made his team's work even more difficult. "There is a risk that it breaks off and drifts out to sea with us on it," Mallet says.

Sea-ice forms in the continent's winter (March to October) before largely melting in summer, and is part of an interconnected system that also consists of icebergs, land ice and huge ice shelves - floating extensions of land ice jutting out from the coast. Sea-ice acts as a protective sleeve for the ice covering the

land and prevents the ocean from heating up.

Caroline Holmes at the British Antarctic Survey explains that the impacts of shrinking sea-ice may become evident as the season transitions to summer - when there's potential for an unstoppable feedback loop of ice melting.

As more sea-ice disappears, it exposes dark areas of ocean, which absorb sunlight instead of reflecting it, meaning that the heat energy is added into the water, which in turn melts more ice. Scientists call this the ice-albedo effect.

That could add a lot more heat to the planet, disrupting Antarctica's usual role as a regulator of global temperatures.

Over 16.5m Iranian students go to school this year

IRNA - More than 16.5 million students will go to schools across Iran next Saturday when the country's new school year begins, according to Minister of Education Reza-Morad Sahraei.

The minister said that 1.7 million first-graders will go to school for the first time this year. He also said that as many as 30,000 applicants for university entrance exams were admitted to

teacher's training universities across the country

this year, a figure that is unprecedented.



First Announcement

Tender invitation

Invitation to public tender for TERT BUTYL PEROXY BENZOATE // 22000 kg

Tabriz petrochemical company intends to procure its required quantity of TERT BUTYL PEROXY BENZOATE for polystyrene production plant.

Interested suppliers should submit their request to below email in order to get tender documents until September 28, 2023.

Deadline for submission of offers for tender is: October 10, 2023.

Email: me.rahimi@tpco.ir Phone No.: +98-41-34282592

Tender	No	Quantity
TERT BUTYL PEROXY BENZOATE	PVS-0141011	22000 kg

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