

Get medicine to suit your genes at AIIMS soon

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Bhopal: Ever wondered how the same medicine reacts differently on different people. The answer lies in genetic makeup and the effect of medicine. Once the genome is determined, medicine composition could be tweaked as per an individual's requirement.

Called targeted medical treatment by learning about an individual genetic disposition, it would soon be rendered at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Bhopal. Even as development of its hospital gathers pace, AIIMS Bhopal is in talks with a Bangalore-based firm to participate in one of India's largest genomics and diagnostics based research. The Bangalore-based firm is engaged in research in mapping population based familial disease (hereditary disease running in multiple generations in a family) and cancer screening. Patients that fit the criteria and referred through AIIMS Bhopal would be gene tested for free.

It would generate solu-

tions for treatment of the affected individual or family. "For population-based genetic data we are collaborating with AIIMS, New Delhi, and SGPGI, Lucknow," said Dr Chirantan Bose, vice-president of Medgenome, the Bangalore-based firm. He also provided highlights of genomic applications, which are key to personalised medicine in cancer. He explained how genomic testing is critical for monito-

SHOT IN THE ARM

ring patients of blood cancers, breast and ovarian cancer, neurologic tumours, endometrial cancers and colorectal cancers. "In short term, available treatment options can be customised based on cancer genomics," he said. "We are looking at getting access to facilities of the well-established genetics laboratory and participating in research," said AIIMS Bhopal professor and HoD pathology and laboratory medicine, Dr Neelkamal Kapoor. AIIMS Bhopal has PCR and RTPCR facility used in DNA amplification.