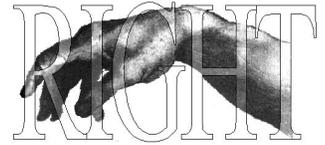




COVID-19: a cure is needed



COVID-19: we need to combine drugs

Viral infections can be tackled by prevention, diagnosis and treatment. While prevention and diagnosis have been implemented against COVID-19, an effective treatment has yet to be developed. Although some drugs appear to mitigate symptoms and slowly decrease viral load in some patients, only drug combinations will end up to be more robust, faster-acting, longer-lasting, and applicable to a larger fraction of patients (as it has been the case with HIV and Hepatitis C, living testimonies of how successful a drug combination can be).

RIGHT: who we are

We have the experience in developing anti-viral drug combinations. Let's take a well known example- HIV: there initially was only one drug available, namely AZT, which alone did "something" but not much. Then we combined two drugs together: better but not enough. Only when we combined three drugs (that alone were suboptimal) we were able to keep HIV under control. Following this strategy, RIGHT's scientists quickly selected in the laboratory the best of these combinations and applied it on "the Berlin Patient", achieving the first ever described case of functional treatment of HIV (Lori and coll. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 1999). We did it against HIV. We can do it again against SARS-CoV-2 that causes the COVID-19 disease.

Timing is critical

We have to combine drugs that are available today, because creating new ones would take years. We must do it first in the laboratory, to be able to quickly test the largest number of combinations, and finally apply the most promising ones to patients, through rigorously conducted clinical trials to maximize activity and minimize side effects. We expect to generate predictive laboratory results within weeks.

Optimizing results

After pioneering combinations of drugs for anti-HIV synergy (Lori et al., *Science* 1994) we extended our expertise to several other viruses and finally to anticancer drugs. Lead Institutions like Spallanzani and San Raffaele are providing us with SARS-CoV-2 isolates. We propose to test combinations containing at least (1) one drug interfering with cellular factors that are essential for viral survival (e.g. Hydroxychloroquine, Chlorpromazine, Mycophenolate), (2) one drug interfering with the viral enzyme that puts together the building blocks required for viral replication (e.g. nucleoside or nucleotide analogues) and (3) one drug interfering with the assembly of a new virus (e.g. protease inhibitors). Each one of these drug families contains several representatives: while few of them are presently under clinical trial, a systematic analysis of their combinations is lacking.

Funding Needed

We seek \$250,000 dollars in donations to fund completion of the studies needed to enable RIGHT to identify combinations of presently available antiviral drugs that are optimal against COVID-19. These studies need to be run initially in a laboratory, in order to reproducibly test numerous drug combinations; then the best drug cocktails can be rapidly confirmed to be active on patients (as the drugs that we are testing are already available and laboratory results are expected to be predictive of clinical success). 100% OF THE DONATIONS WILL GO TO FUND THIS PROJECT. Initial key information regarding treatment of the present COVID-19 outbreak could be available within 8-12 weeks.

RIGHT is an international non-profit corporation with offices in the United States and Italy pursuing innovative personalized therapies and vaccine research to benefit people with cancer, infectious diseases, and allergies. Since 1995 RIGHT has been partnering with its commercial spin offs, Genetic Immunity, ViroStatics and eMMUNITY, to transfer the discoveries of RIGHT's research to patients. Over its 20-year history, RIGHT has received over 20 Million Dollars in grants from the United States, Italy and the European Union. RIGHT has presented numerous studies at international conferences and has published nearly one hundred scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals.

For more information on RIGHT, see www.rightinstitute.net.

For further information on the Campaign to Cure COVID-19 contact: rightresearchinstitute@gmail.com
