

“University of Rajasthan organized a webinar on different aspects of vaccination with expertise of Bharat Biotech”

A webinar entitled '*COVID-19 & Vaccination: Everything Worth Knowing*' was organized by the Entrepreneurship & Career Hub (ECH) (supported by RUSA 2.0), University of Rajasthan. The session saw Dr. Kapil Mathur, Assistant Manager, Development Quality Control, Bharat Biotech International Limited sharing his experience and knowledge with the participants about COVID-19 and his journey of vaccine research and designing being an integral part of the team of Bharat Biotech International Limited.

The evening started with the inaugural address by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Rajeev Jain where he emphasized on the importance of innovation and novel research which has contributed in improving the public health, thus preventing the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. The event proceeded further with the address of Prof. S.L. Sharma, Nodal Officer, RUSA 2.0 where he acquainted the audience to Entrepreneurship & Career Hub, its functionality and services. He also highlighted the importance of innovations and creativity in various fields during the tough times of COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Vidya Patni, Coordinator, ECH welcomed the guest, Dr. Kapil Mathur.

Dr. Mathur started with a brief introduction about the COVID-19 virus, its mechanism of infection, followed by which he shared different approaches of vaccine research and designing. He also described the salient features of various vaccines manufactured worldwide and the importance of vaccination which can help a community achieve herd immunity while saving the lives of toddlers, children, pregnant and lactating women without vaccination.

On the ending note, he suggested everyone to get vaccinated. He suggested the recently recovered individuals to get the jab after 3-4 months of infection as the individual possesses immunity which can help avoid the shortage of doses. He also emphasized to make sure that the first and the second dose are of the same vaccine as all the available vaccines use different modes to develop immunity in an individual. Further Dr. JMS Murthy, Manager ECH moderated the question and answer session, where Dr. Mathur answered many queries regarding vaccination Dose quantity and vaccination time duration and its side effects. ECH team members collectively facilitated the interaction between students, faculty and startups with Dr. Mathur. The webinar was concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr. Bhavya Soni, Working Committee Member, ECH by motivating entrepreneurs to adapt to the situations.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, University of Rajasthan has initiated a series of webinars for increasing awareness to deal with this pandemic situation. As a part of the series, this interactive webinar was organized to interact with **industrial expert** from **Bharat Biotech International Limited**, who is involved in developing the COVAXIN (indigenous COVID -19 Vaccine).

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