

SII TO LAUNCH VACCINE TO PREVENT CERVICAL CANCER

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Serum Institute of India CEO Adar Poonawalla on Tuesday said the company plans to launch its indigenously developed vaccine to prevent cervical cancer in women later this year.

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) on Tuesday granted market authorisation to Serum Institute of India (SII) to manufacture the indigenously developed India's first Quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus vaccine (qHPV) against cervical cancer.

In response to the approval by the drug regulator, Mr. Poonawalla in a tweet said, "For the first time, there will be an Indian HPV vaccine to treat cervical cancer in women that is both affordable and accessible. We look forward to launching it later this year."

The approval by the drug regulator of SII's anti-cancer vaccine follows recommendation by the Subject Expert Committee (SEC) of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization on COVID-19 vaccine on June 15, 2021.

Cervical cancer in India ranks as the second-most frequent cancer among women between 15 and 44 years of age.

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