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## Hudson Institute of Medical Research Publication: Controlling Inflammation to Conquer Lung Infections

We are pleased to announce that Lateral Pharma's collaborators at the Hudson Institute of Medical Research (Hudson Institute), led by Associate Professor Michelle Tate, have published their recent findings in *The Journal of Infectious Diseases*, showing LAT9997 limits viral burden and characteristic features of severe influenza in mice, including hyperinflammation and lung damage.

Following influenza infection, mice treated with LAT9997 showed:

- Significantly improved survival outcomes
- Reduced disease severity
- Greater disease resistance
- Reduced viral loads, cytokines, and neutrophil infiltration in the airways, yet maintained protective alveolar macrophages in a dose-dependent manner.

The findings from the Hudson Institute support the potential of LAT9997 and similar compounds to help patients with severe respiratory diseases.

A/Prof Tate differentiates LAT9997 from other treatments by stating that:

"Unlike current antiviral drugs which act on the virus itself, this compound mimics a natural protein found in our body and acts directly on the cells in the lung to protect them from damage and cell death."

"The immune system can overreact, which causes damage to the airways – the lung becomes leaky and fluid enters,"

"We have identified a new therapy which limits lung damage and the ability of the virus to replicate in the lung."

The research team is currently working to better understand how these treatments protect the lungs. This forms part of their ongoing efforts to identify markers of activity for a clinical trial.

The development of therapies like LAT9997 is not only about treating existing diseases but also about equipping the medical community with the tools necessary to respond to future health crises. By understanding and controlling the body's response to viruses, we can potentially mitigate the impact of future pandemics.

LAT9997 is a 6 amino acid peptide that possesses several commercial advantages over Lateral's other compounds, including formulation potential and manufacturing costs.

### **Further Information**

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