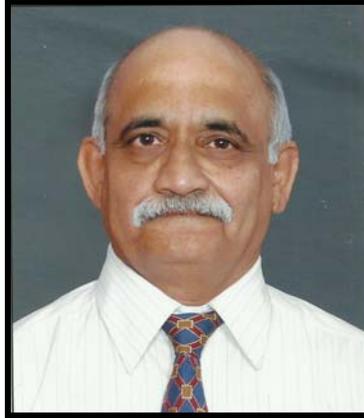


## Dr. Hemant Gharpure, M. Sc. Ph.D.



An **Alumnus of ACTREC** (having joined the Cancer Research Institute) in 1972 as Junior Research Fellow and later as Senior Scientific Assistant in 1974, Dr. Gharpure acquired his Ph. D. degree in Biochemistry (Immunology) from Bombay University for his work on “Influence of Dinitrophenylation of Leukocyte Membrane Receptor Site: Mechanism of Action of FDNB Tagged Normal Leukocytes as Anti-Leukemic Antigens” in 1978. The project elucidated exposure of hitherto cryptic sites within the normal cell membrane due to its rearrangement because of tagging with hydrophobic Dinitrophenyl group, imparting anti-leukemic activity.

After his Ph. D, he had moved to Michigan State University, USA as Research Associate, where he worked during 1979-1981 on Differentiation of “T” Cells. At Indiana University Sch. Of Medicine(1981-1983)research work on Immunology of “Tumor Metastases”: Isolation & Characterization of Tumor Derived Growth Factors and metastatic clones. At Utah State University, USA, as Res Asst. professor the research focus was on ‘Production & Characterization of Monoclonal Antibodies.

Back in India in 1984, he worked as a Senior Scientist with ‘Span Research Center’ Surat, on the development of Diagnostic Kits for 6 years. Being an Immunologist, he got attracted to the HIV Research, a hot topic in the 90’s & joined the Haffkine Research Institute’s newly formed ICMR funded Research Center (1990-93), in Mumbai.

Having decided to pursue the career in HIV diagnostics, he then proceeded to join the MGM Medical College in Navi Mumbai, where he established a State of the Art Laboratory for HIV Research. Apart from working on Sero-epidemiology of HIV infection, he went on to “**Standardization & Commercial Production Indigenously Developed the Western Blot test kit**”. He is also credited with the ‘Establishment of Molecular Research Laboratory’ and ‘Standardization of procedure’ for ‘identification of Resistance to Anti-HIV drugs in Practice’. The focus was on immunology throughout his career, whether in oncology or infectious diseases he realized the **importance of blending Research and provide knowledge based laboratory support** particularly in HIV . This culminated in establishment of “**Bio Prime Research**” in the heart of the city at Dadar, where he is the Director.

At “BioPrime Research” the focus is not only on the basic diagnosis, but significance of CD4, CD8 count, the Viral Load determination, its relevance for therapy monitoring, interacting not only with clinicians, but also counseling of patients and providing correct information. Having around 15 scientific publications in International Journals including Nature, he was invited to write a Chapter on “Laboratory Diagnosis of HIV Infection” in “The Textbook & Atlas of Dermatology”, 2nd Edition, Editor: Dr R. G. Valia, published in 2001.

Dr. Gharpure established his own lab, the 'BioPrime Research Laboratory' 13 years ago and is actively pursuing research projects viz.

1. Identification of new parameters to monitor HIV Progression
2. Redefine situation appropriate to begin drug intervention
3. Pregnancy options in discordant couples, Immunological and virology parameters.

In all this work from scientific to research to counseling, Dr. Gharpure is ably supported by his wife, **Mrs. Padmaja Gharpure, a Co-founder of Bio Prime Research, also an alumnus of Cancer Research Institute.**