

Dr Hemant Dhamne

*Head, Vector and CAR-T Cell Processing,
Immuneel Therapeutics Pvt Ltd, Bangalore*

Hemant Dhamne, obtained his Ph. D from the ACTREC, Mumbai (2014) in Applied Virology. His Ph.D. thesis was on the Lentiviral Vector Mediate Long Term Expression of Therapeutic Proteins. He completed his doctoral work in the labs of Dr. Robin Mukhopadhyaya and Dr. Rajiv Kalraiya. His doctoral studies mainly focused on developing the novel LV platform using the inhouse HIV-1 derived vector system and its application for cell engineering and tumor targeting in pre-clinical models. From 2014 to 2015, he was a post-doctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Amit



Dutt in the same institute working on functional genomics aspects spanning novel miRNA discovery and novel mutations in cancer causing genes and associated pathways. Thereafter, he joined Gene Therapy Division at Intas Pharmaceuticals, Ahmedabad. He worked on early stage product development of AAV mediated gene therapy for diseases such hemophilia, neuronal and eye disorders. He successfully developed the pilot scale manufacturing platforms using suspension cell lines in upstream and chromatography in downstream process. He also contributed for assay development. He served as Research Scientist from 2015 to 2017 and as Senior Research Scientist from 2017 to 2019. He also developed early stage designs and assays for CAR-T research.

In 2018 to 2019, he completed an Diploma in International Business Management from Ahmedabad Management Association in affiliation with California State University.

In 2019, he joined Immuneel Therapeutics as Head of Vector & CAR-T Manufacturing. His work encompasses the process development and GMP grade manufacturing of

autologous CAR-T cells for clinical trials. The disease areas mainly include the leukemias and lymphomas. He has 7 peer reviewed publications in the field of gene therapy and functional genomics.

He is amateur photographer and a musician. His photography work includes a selection of photograph in National Geographic - Your Shots, 2011; Nature photography, Sanctuary Asia Magazine 2012; selection of photographs in BBC - In Picture photography column 2012; shortlisted photographs for EMBO Cover Page 2013-14; Nature India Photography, 2016. He has also conceptualized and initiated the Photography Contest in Graduate Student Meet (now NRSM). He founded a fusion band - The Barefeet Project where he played role of singer and composer from 2010 onwards. He served as volunteer for Organic Farming initiative for Cancer Patients at St. Jude Center, Mumbai during 2012 to 2015. Similarly, he volunteered work in Stray Animal Rescue for Jivadaya Trust, Ahmedabad 2018 to 2019.