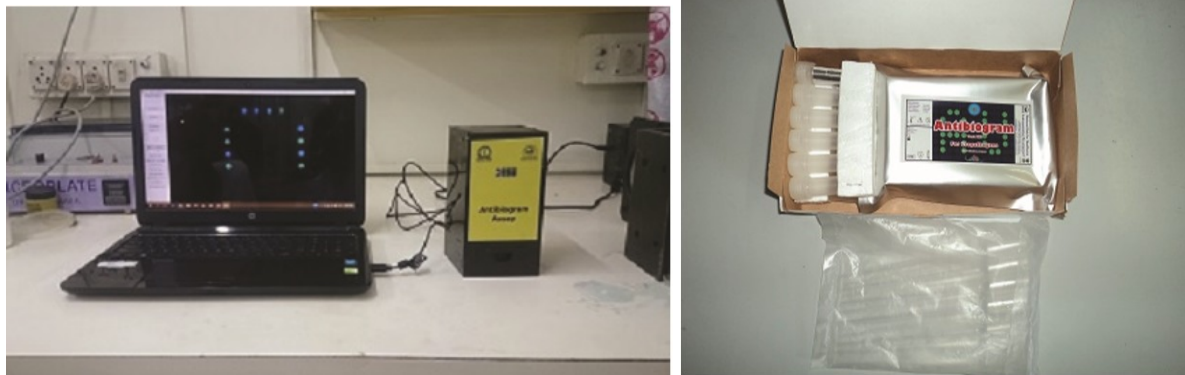


New device can determine antibiotic susceptibility for effective treatment

National Hub for Healthcare Instrumentation Development (NHHID), Anna University, Chennai has developed a new device to determine antibiotic susceptibility of bacteria infecting the individuals.

The Antibiogram Device, as it is called was developed by the team headed by Dr K Sankaran, Scientist, NHHID, Anna University. It could be of great value in the hospitals and diagnostic laboratories, at a time when antimicrobial resistance is spreading globally, and new resistance mechanisms are emerging threatening our ability to treat common infectious diseases, resulting in prolonged illness, disability, and death in some cases.



It is a portable optoelectronic gadget that can determine the antibiotic susceptibility or resistance within 7-10 hours or before the second dose of antibiotics, so that doctors could decide the safe and effective antibiotic treatment.

The unique feature of the technology is that it has potential to replace current microbiological method that takes 2 to 3 days and can be operated by semiskilled workers in peripheral laboratories.

DST's Technology Development and Transfer Division has supported the team to convert the proof-of-concept stage technique into advanced validated product prototype. The device which is under field trial will enable doctors to view the lab results on their tablets and computers to rationalize their antibiotic treatment and save lives.

The device has a promising potential in the market owing to its uniqueness. The IP Ownership of the device is held by NHHID and they are yet to file the patent.