



Centre for Research & Development

Research Supervisor (Guide) Profiles

Discipline of Supervision: **Biotechnology**



Dr. Dileep Francis

Associate Professor
Department of Life Sciences
School of Biological and Forensic Sciences

Areas of Specialisation:

Infectious Disease Biology, Rational Drug Discovery,
Vaccine Immunology, Immunoinformatics.

Dr. Dileep Francis is Dean of Research and Development and Associate Professor in the Department of Life Sciences at Kristu Jayanti (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru. He earned his Ph.D. in Life Sciences from Kannur University, Kerala, where he received CSIR junior and senior research fellowships after ranking 60th in the CSIR-JRF/NET exam. He also completed a computational biology certification from IIT Madras. His doctoral research identified a vaccine candidate against Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infections. Dr. Francis focuses on interventions for diagnosing and treating infectious diseases through rational drug discovery, and collaborates on materials science research for biomedical applications. He has published extensively across high-impact journals, edited books, and conference proceedings, accumulating over 450 citations with an h-index of 12. Dr. Francis serves as editor of the Kristu Jayanti Journal of Core and Applied Biology. He holds several professional positions including life membership in the Kerala Academy of Sciences, membership on Kristu Jayanti (Deemed to be University)'s research advisory committee, and board of studies membership in Biotechnology at Jyoti Nivas College, Autonomous, Bengaluru. From 2020-2023, he coordinated the DBT-Star College Scheme at Kristu Jayanti (Deemed to be University).

Selected Publications:

1. Kumar, B. S., Ravi, S. M., Kapoor, J., Joy, A., Daniel, E. C., George, S. K., Parayil, D. J., & **Francis, D.** (2024). Cycloisolongifolene-8,9-dehydro-9-formyl inhibits lipoxygenase and might play a role in the wound-healing property of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* and *Tagetes erecta*. *Journal of Herbal Medicine*, 43, 100843. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhep.2023.100843>
2. Abhithaj, J., **Francis, D.**, Sharanya, C. S., Arun, K. G., Sadasivan, C., & Variyar, E. J. (2022). Repurposing simeprevir, calpain inhibitor IV and a cathepsin F inhibitor against SARS-CoV-2 and insights into their interactions with Mpro. *Journal of Biomolecular Structure and Dynamics*, 40(1), 325-336. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07391102.2020.1813200>
3. **Francis, D.**, & Kuyyalil, S. (2018). Immunogenicity and protective efficacy of recombinant alkaline shock protein 23 from *Staphylococcus aureus* in a murine model. *Central European Journal of Immunology*, 43(4), 371-377. <https://doi.org/10.5114/ceji.2018.81348>