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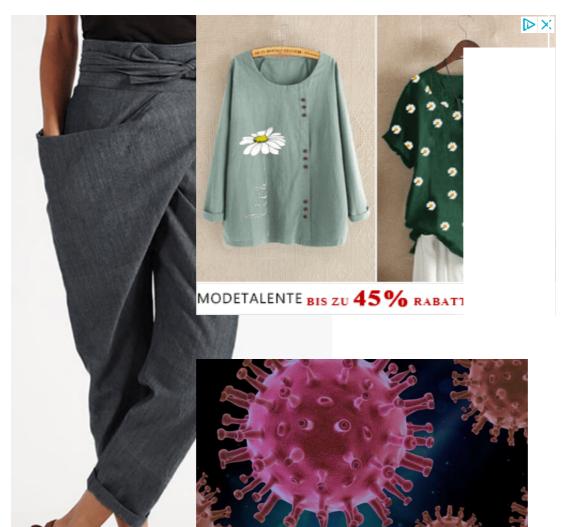
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BY BRINKWIRE

MADRID, April 20
- The number of people diagnosed with the new coronavirus in Spain has surpassed the 200,000 threshold,



A total of 155 drugs and 79 vaccines are currently being developed worldwide to combat COVID-19. The Austrian Institute for Health Technology Assessment (AIHTA) has compiled these astonishing figures as part of a new product line. The Viennabased institute, which specialises in scientific decision support in the health care sector, worked closely with European colleagues to produce this overview. Most of the 155 drugs under development against COVID-19 have already been approved for other (viral) infections and therefore require special evidence for approval against COVID-19. Of the 79 vaccine candidates, none has yet moved beyond the development stage.

It seems as if the test tubes of this world currently only exist for corona viruses—pharmaceutical and biotech companies, university institutes, research facilities and clinics worldwide are investing enormous resources into the research and development of drugs and vaccines to fight the pandemic. It is becoming increasingly difficult for decision-makers in politics and health care to maintain an overview—although cost-intensive decisions will be necessary at the latest when the first prophylaxes or therapies become available.

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Shock breakthrough shows coronavirus could be stopped by 'decoy proteins'

BY BRINKWIRE

RESEARCHERS at the University of Leicester have made a breakthrough discovery of "decoy proteins" that could stop COVID-19 infections in the body. Coronavirus affects the...

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Five ways collective intelligence can help beat coronavirus in developing countries.

BY BRINKWIRE

The COVID-19

For this reason, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection (BMSGPK) and other stakeholders in the health care system asked the AIHTA to prepare an overview of worldwide research and development activities in the field of COVID-19, which can provide evidence-based support for future decisions.

New horizons

The request reached the AIHTA at the very moment it was introducing a new product line, the so-called "Policy Briefs", which are designed to provide rapid, yet evidencebased policy advice and provide a solid basis for acute decisions in health care. "We then set up a Horizon Scanning System (HSS) for the overview of COVID-19 R&D activities," explains Ms. Priv. Dr. phil. Claudia Wild, head of the AIHTA. "The aim of such an HSS is to provide early information on intervention options that are currently in the R&D stage. In the coming months, their development will be further monitored, data will be processed and purchasing by the health care system will be supported onan evidence-based foundation.

Using international sources, Dr. Wild and her team has identified a total of 155 drugs that are being tested at this time for their effect against SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19. These are all based on one or more of the following known antiviral agent(s): Remdesivir, Lopinavir + Ritonavir (Kaletra),

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It's a little hard to find community on Twitch

BY BRINKWIRE

One of the weirdest things to me about Twitch is how it's a social site that doesn't

pandemic has so far had the greatest impact in developed economies with strong health systems. And the results have been terrifying. But the...

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Unidentified gunman kills 7 in Lebanon

BY BRINKWIRE

BEIRUT An unidentified gunman on Tuesday killed seven people in Baakleen town in Lebanon, local media reported. The assailant fled the scene, according to the...

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Favipirvir (Avigan), Darunavir (Prezista), Chloroquine phosphates (Resochin), Hydroxychloroquine (Plaquenil), Camostat Mesilate (Foipan), APN01 (rhACE2), Tocilizumab (Roactemra), Sarilumab (Kevzara) and Interferon beta 1a (SNG001). Commenting on these compounds, Dr. Wild points out: "Since the majority of these compounds are drugs that are already approved for other indications, international regulators emphasise the need for robust evidence for pivotal studies". In order to reinforce this claim, the European Medicines Agency (EMA) also founded its own COVID-19 Task Force on 9 April.

The 79 vaccine candidates identified by the AIHTA in the HSS are divided into three vaccine types: Live vaccines (with attenuated virus strains), dead vaccines (with virus proteins) or gene-based vaccines (with specific DNA or mRNA). Most of these projects are still in the development stage and have not yet been approved.

The AIHTA then created so-called vignettes for those drugs or vaccines that are particularly advanced in development or those that are considered particularly promising in the specialist literature. These are short, concise descriptions that provide additional information. In total, the AIHTA issued11 vignettes on drugs and 8 on vaccine candidates.

Overall, the AIHTA report is an extremely

incentivize much communitybuilding. Part of this is obviously...

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Strategic Western Desperados III Rides Onto PS4 in June

BY BRINKWIRE

John Cooper gets his own trailer THQ Nordic has announced the release date of its upcoming tactical Western, Desperados III. The game, developed by Shadow...

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Velocity 2X Developer FuturLab Is Making a Peaky Blinders Video Game

BY BRINKWIRE

Welcome to Birmingham Peaky Blinders is one of those TV shows valuable aid to decision-making at a time when health care systems have to choose the most appropriate drug or vaccine against COVID-19 from a wide range of them. With its new product line "Policy Briefs", the AIHTA can thus offer the Institute's shareholders, the BMSGPK, the health funds of the nine Austrian federal states and the umbrella organisation of social insurances,, adequate, evidence-based decision-making support in a health crisis of hitherto unknown extent.

Provided by Austrian Institute for Health Technology Assessment

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our parents love that we've never actually bothered to watch. Who knows if we're...

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