



## Cancer Drugs Tislelizumab and Zanubrutinib

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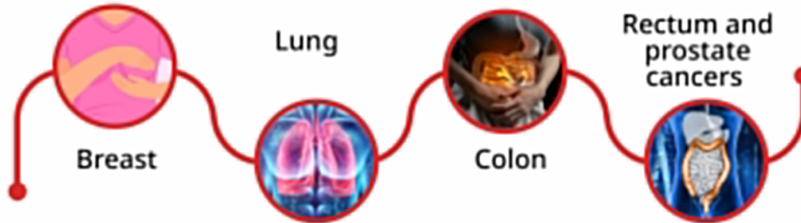
India is set to get access to two new cancer drugs named **Tislelizumab and Zanubrutinib**.

- Tislelizumab, a new immunotherapy drug, is showing effectiveness in treating advanced **oesophageal squamous cell carcinoma** (Cancer that forms in the thin, flat cells lining the inside of the oesophagus).
- Zanubrutinib is a type of medication that inhibits a protein called **Bruton's tyrosine kinase (BTK)**, which is important for the growth and survival of certain cancerous blood cells.
  - It has been approved for the treatment of specific types of **blood cancers**.
- [Cancer](#) refers to a group of diseases characterised by the **uncontrolled proliferation and spread of abnormal cells in the body**, which can infiltrate and harm healthy tissues and organs.
- In 2019, **India had 1.2 million new cancer cases** and 930,000 deaths, **making it the second-highest contributor to the disease burden in Asia** for that year.
  - The cancer cases in the country are projected to increase from 14.6 lakh in 2022 to 15.7 lakh in 2025, as per the [Indian Council of Medical Research](#).

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Cancer is a leading cause of death worldwide, accounting for nearly 10 million deaths in 2020, or nearly 1 in 6 deaths.

### Most Common Cancers



### Around 1/3rd of deaths from cancer are due to-



- Cancer-causing infections, such as human papillomavirus (HPV) and hepatitis, are responsible for approximately 30% of cancer cases in low-and lower-middle-income countries.
- Many cancers can be cured if detected early and treated effectively.

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