

Antiviral Drug Development for Biothreat Agents

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SIGA Technologies is applying viral and bacterial genomics and sophisticated computational modeling in the design and development of novel products for the prevention and treatment of serious infectious diseases, with an emphasis on products for biological warfare defense. SIGA's lead program is development of an antiviral (SIGA-246) for smallpox and related orthopoxviruses. SIGA has an approved IND for development of SIGA-246 and in December 2005, the FDA awarded SIGA-246 fast track status to expedite the drug's review. Clinical trials are underway and if successful SIGA-246 will become the first drug of its kind to obtain marketing approval from the FDA. In addition to smallpox, SIGA has antiviral programs targeting other Category A pathogens, including arenaviruses (Lassa fever, Junin, Machupo, Guanarito, Sabia, and lymphocytic choriomeningitis), dengue virus, and the filoviruses (Ebola and Marburg).