

# EDUCATION GUIDE

## Promising breakthrough in pneumonia treatment

PNEUMONIA is an acute respiratory infection that primarily affects the lungs. When a healthy person breathes in, air goes into tiny sacs in the lungs called alveoli. However, when a person has pneumonia, the alveoli become clogged with pus and fluid, making breathing difficult and limiting oxygen intake.

Pneumonia is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide, affecting people of all ages. According to the WHO, pneumonia is responsible for more than two million deaths annually.

Antibiotics are normally prescribed for the treatment of bacterial pneumonia. Unfortunately, the available antibiotics have become less effective because the bacteria can rapidly develop resistance to them.

Phomosidione is a new antibiotic discovered by researchers in Universiti Kuala Lumpur, Institute of Medical Science Technology (UniKL-Mestech). This antibiotic is capable of inhibiting pneumonia-causing bacteria. The antibiotic kills bacterial cells through a unique mechanism that specifically targets the bacterial outer membranes.

A recent preclinical study also proved that the antibiotic successfully reduced



Phomosidione is a new antibiotic discovered by researchers in UniKL-Mestech.

inflammation responses in lung tissues, thereby reducing the discomfort caused by pneumonia.

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