



Tomorrow's Treatments Today

Biotechnology Research is helping to produce a number of new or improved treatments for disease. Proleukin, developed by Chiron Corporation through partnership with BioServe Space Technologies, has been approved by the FDA for use in treatment of bladder cancer and metastatic melanoma. In addition, it is being used in human clinical trials to test its effectiveness as an adjunct treatment for AIDS. Myotrophin has been submitted by Chiron as a New Drug Application to the FDA for use as a treatment of a neural degenerative disease. The company is also evaluating it as a potential treatment for skeletal disorders, since flight research has demonstrated its effectiveness in preventing the reduction of bone formation that results from space flight. Neuraminidase Inhibitor may soon provide a treatment for the flu. BioCryst Incorporated, a commercial partner of the Center for Macromolecular Crystallography (a Commercial Space Center), is teamed with Johnson and Johnson to develop and market this drug worldwide. Clinical trials should be underway soon. Chagas disease has been a serious health problem in Central and South America, but development of effective treatments were stalled for more than a decade. Work through the Center for Macromolecular Crystallography has jump started this effort and resulted in significant advances, all made possible by the high-quality protein crystals grown on the Shuttle.

For more information, please visit:

<http://commercial.nasa.gov>

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