



## Discovery Fast Track Competition & Discovery Partnerships for Academia

GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) announces their Discovery Fast Track Competition to recognize and reward innovative concepts, discoveries and research by investigators affiliated with academic research institutions, colleges and universities. This programme is aligned with GSK Discovery Partnerships for Academia (DPAc) initiative. Winning investigators will collaborate with a team of GSK scientists to put their innovative research concept on an accelerated drug discovery path. GSK will provide state-of-the-art capabilities to scale biological reagents and develop assays to support high-throughput screening of millions of compounds against your target or pathway. The objective is to combine scientific expertise in data analysis and screening triage, along with GSK capabilities (Reagents and Assays, HTS and Validation Support), to enable accelerated identification of high-quality chemical probes.

Requirements of the concept:

- i. Clear therapeutic hypothesis: A coherent and supportable hypothesis that modulation of target will produce a physiological effect which will be of therapeutic benefit to particular patients.
- ii. Target and/or pathway defined: Specific drug target identified, and some understanding of type of pharmacology desired.
- iii. Exclusive enabling expertise: Academic partner has unique know-how and/or expertise essential to progress the target.
- iv. Tractability: Reagents and assays are available that will enable a path to identification of chemical probes.

Evaluation criteria:

- i. Strength of the therapeutic hypothesis.
- ii. Degree of originality of the work presented.
- iii. Level of completeness of the target/screening assay.
- iv. Potential impact or benefit of the target to medicine (unmet medical need).
- v. Investigator's and institution's capabilities to support entry into the Discovery Fast Track Competition and for joint execution of a DPAc Project to establish truly integrated partnerships that can translate innovative research into medicines that benefit patients.

Benefits for the investigator:

- i. GSK will test their compound collection using their screening platforms to discover active compounds.
- ii. Together GSK and the investigator will triage and interpret the data output to identify and confirm chemical probes.
- iii. GSK may provide chemical structures of selected chemical probe(s) to investigators to help further their research and potentially lead to high-impact publications.
- iv. Promising results may lead to an opportunity for the investigator and institution to collaborate with GSK in a Project to create a novel medicine with the DPAc team. Each Project will operate as a joint team, with both partners working towards shared goals with open sharing of information and data

Deadline for applications: April 24th, 2014. Please refer to our Knowledge, Transference and Innovation Department ([direccio.innovacio@vhir.org](mailto:direccio.innovacio@vhir.org)) for further information and Proposals of Interest at anytime - even out of the deadlines

of the call -

More information: You can check here the [Discovery Fast Track Competition Website](#).

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