Request for Proposals: Drug Discovery Research Partnerships with GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)
Are you interested in applying your innovative research to the discovery of new medicines? GSK’s Discovery Partnerships with Academia (DPAc) is a new approach to early drug discovery that is designed to provide industrial drug discovery resources and expertise to academic researchers. The concept is simple but powerful: bring together the insight and creativity of the academic world with the drug discovery expertise of GSK to establish truly integrated partnerships that can translate innovative research into medicines that benefit patients. Each project will operate as a joint team, with both partners working towards shared goals and open sharing of information and data.

We are looking for projects with a specific and testable drug development hypothesis that, if successful, would deliver therapeutic benefit to patients. Your proposal can be in any disease area and based on any treatment modality, be it small molecule or biopharmaceutical. We will undertake projects starting from early screening to late lead optimization. We are open to a wide range of possibilities that have progressed beyond the exploratory and technology platform stages.

There are two ways you can apply for consideration in the program.
1. **GlaxoSmithKline & Einstein’s Offices of Biotechnology and Business Development** are co-sponsoring a **special GSK DPAc Information Session** on Thursday, March 19th. You are invited to submit a 1 page, non-confidential proposal for competitive consideration prior to our first **March 4th Call for Proposal application deadline**. Applications submitted by March 4th may have an opportunity for an in-depth discussion with GSK after the Information Session. Instructions for submission are outlined below.

In your 1 page non-confidential application, please outline each of the following in your proposal:
- **Clear therapeutic drug development hypothesis**: A coherent and supportable hypothesis that modulation of target will produce a physiological effect which will be of therapeutic benefit to particular patients.
- **Defined target and/or pathway**: Specific drug target identified, and some understanding of type of pharmacology desired.
- **Exclusive enabling expertise**: Your unique know-how and/or expertise essential to progress the target.
• **Tractability**: A path to identification of a drug molecule can be defined (e.g. target knowledge suggests that a drug-like molecule can be generated) and a feasible path to demonstrating efficacy in the clinic can be identified.

The primary criteria used to assess both initial applications and finalist proposals includes:

- Strength of the therapeutic hypothesis
- Degree of originality of the work presented
- Level of completeness and maturity of the target/screening assay
- Potential impact or benefit of the target to drug development and patients (unmet medical need)
- Investigator’s and institution’s capabilities to support application

Your team will collaborate directly with key researchers from GSK: you provide your critical biological and disease understanding and GSK will contribute a vast range of scientific and drug discovery expertise, experience and resources. The outcome of the proposal selection is the opportunity to introduce your research program to the team in a 30 minute presentation. If there is interest in learning more, the DPac team will provide feedback on next steps required for advancing from pre-DPac selected project to DPac funded project.

Submissions for consideration for the March 19th DPac Information Session are **due by Wednesday, March 4th**. Finalists will be notified the week of March 9th. Please submit your proposal (email preferred), along with contact information to:

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