




cqdm **An original response to the drug industry challenges**

**2009-2010 competition
CQDM information session**

September 29th, 2009

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cqdm **Scope of the funding program**

- Promote the development of innovative enabling technologies that can facilitate biopharmaceutical research
- Not intended to fund the development of specific molecules
- Must address the most important challenges of the biopharmaceutical industry
- Must generate clear deliverables with immediate applications in the drug discovery or development process
- Promote creativity and collaborations between public and private organizations (strongly encouraged, but not mandatory)

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 **Funding specifics****Amount and duration**

- \$1,000,000- \$2,000,000/project for 3 years
- Funding of up to \$3,000,000 under exceptional circumstances, if well justified

Number of projects funded

- 3 -5 projects per year

Eligible Costs

- Salaries of research personnel, materials and supplies, travelling, specific services, user fees for equipment, administrative costs (up to 15%)

Non-eligible Costs

- Salary of the PI and co-investigators, equipment (purchase or rental)

Payment Schedule

- Quarterly disbursement subjected to milestones achievement and satisfactory follow-up
 - ❖ Quarterly financial report
 - ❖ Bi-annual scientific progress report

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 **Research agenda (2009-2010)**

This year, priority will be given to the following enabling technologies:

- 1) Innovative technology platforms**
- 2) Translational technologies**
- 3) Cutting edge drug delivery technologies**

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Research agenda (2009-2010)

1) Innovative technology platform

Examples

- Novel therapeutic approaches for biologics
- Breakthrough in protein expression systems
- Innovative chemistry platform
- Cutting edge technologies improving the productivity of synthetic chemistry
- Innovative system biology with a strong impact on translational research
- Enabling cell-based research tools
- Novel approaches for drug repositioning



Research agenda (2009-2010)

2) Translational technologies

Examples

- Knowledge management, data mining, modeling and predictive analysis
- New biomarkers or imaging tools for:
 - Predictability of efficacy or safety
 - Development of surrogate markers
 - Diagnostic and stratification of diseases
 - Monitoring of diseases
- Precision (personalized) medicine
- Validation of new therapeutic targets

cqdm Research agenda (2009-2010)

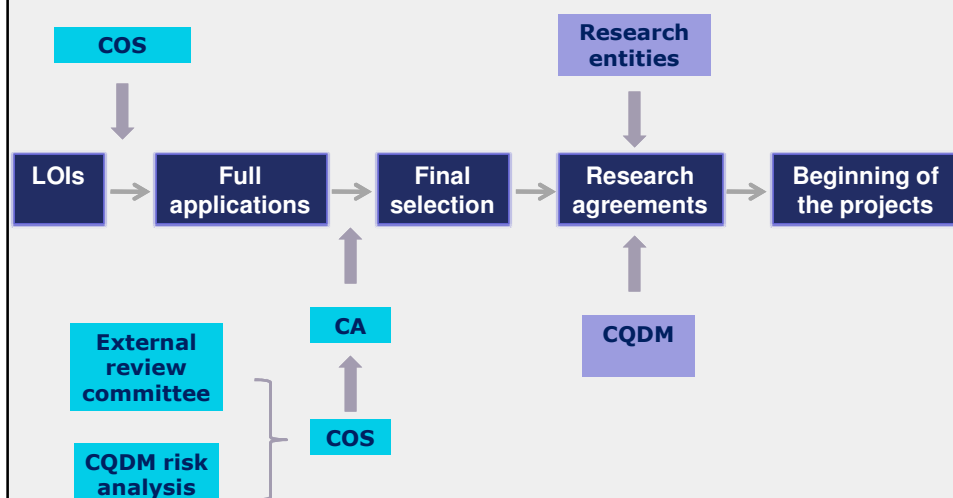
3) Cutting edge drug delivery technologies

Examples

- RNAi
- Increased drug absorption
- Vaccine delivery
- Crossing the blood brain barrier
- Delivery systems for biologics
- Oral protein delivery
- Innovative formulations

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cqdm CQDM funding process



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Timetable for 2009-2010 competition

Call for proposals launched	August 20th 2009
Letters of intent submission	October 21st 2009
Selection of the letters of intent	November 30th 2009
Full proposal submission	February 15th 2010
Final selection announcement	May 3rd 2010
Signature of the research agreement	August 3rd 2010
Funding release & beginning of the projects	September 1st 2010

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Main evaluation criteria

- 1) Scientific excellence**
- 2) Applicability and impact on biopharmaceutical research**
- 3) Feasibility/ project management**
- 4) Quality of the collaboration**

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 **Main evaluation criteria****1) Scientific excellence**

- Quality of the rationale and working hypothesis
- Strong preliminary data (if available)
- Consistency of methodological and scientific approaches
- Originality and innovative character of the project
- Capacity to validate the technology or bring a proof of concept
- Position and competitiveness of the technology

 **Main evaluation criteria****2) Applicability and impact on biopharmaceutical research**

- Capacity to address important non-resolved challenges in the drug R&D process
- Potential to bring in new therapeutic approaches or research avenues
- Capacity to reduce the costs, time to market and/or risks of development of new drugs
- Capacity to generate applicable results at the end of the funding period

 **Main evaluation criteria****3) Feasibility/ project management**

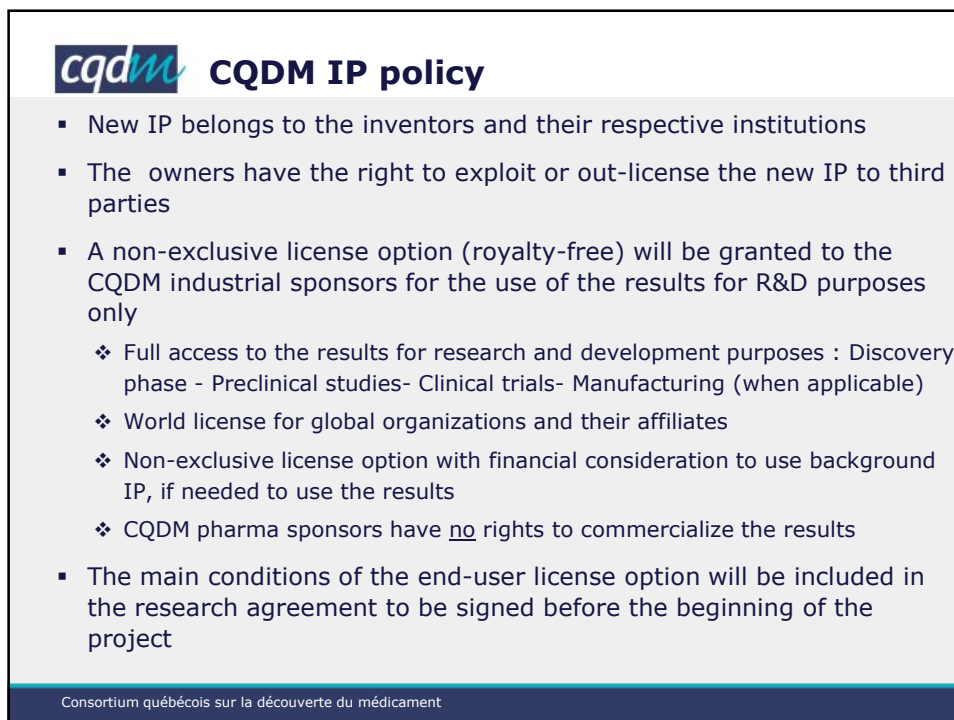
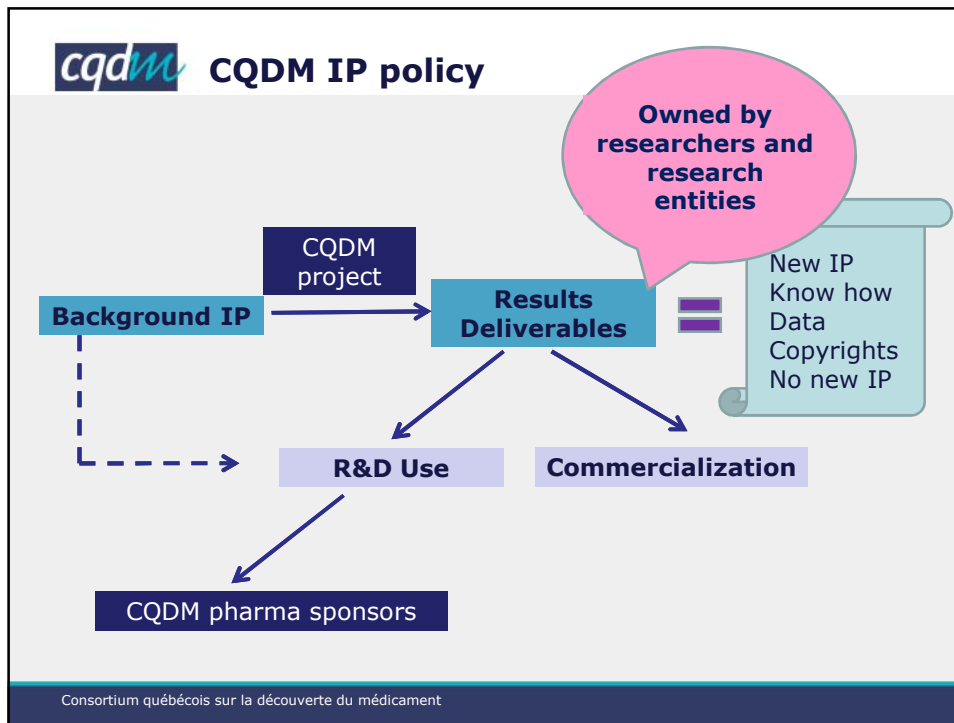
- Clear deliverables, milestones and schedule
- Quality of the overall management of the project
- Likelihood of achieving the milestones and objectives within the timeframe of the project
- Ability to identify and manage the risks associated with the project
- Soundness of the project overall costs
- Suitable infrastructure, facilities and equipment to carry out the research
- Track record of the investigators

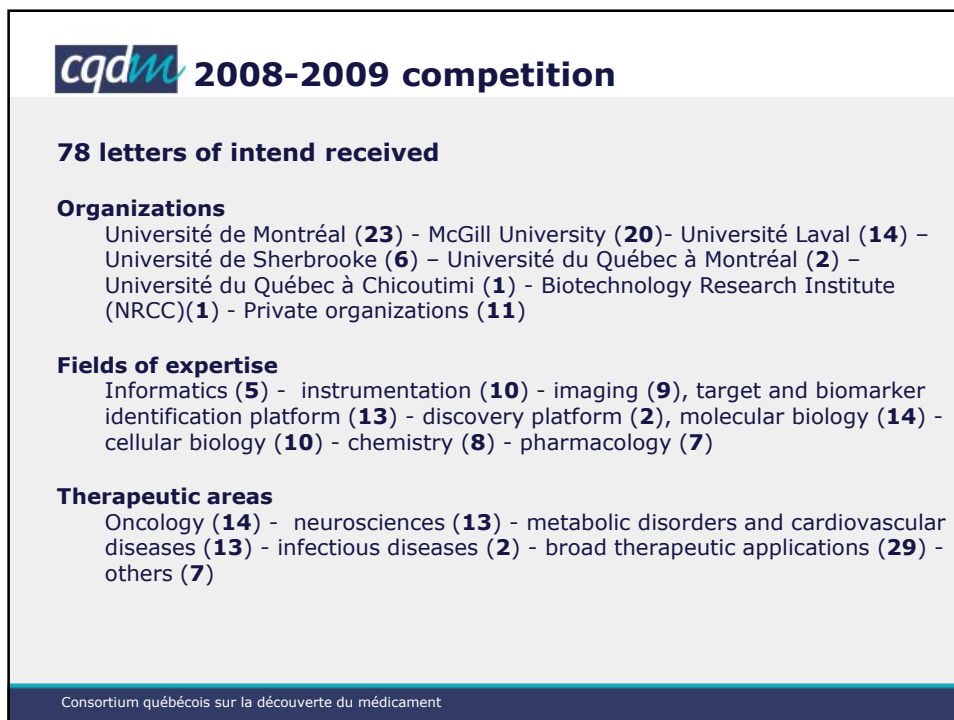
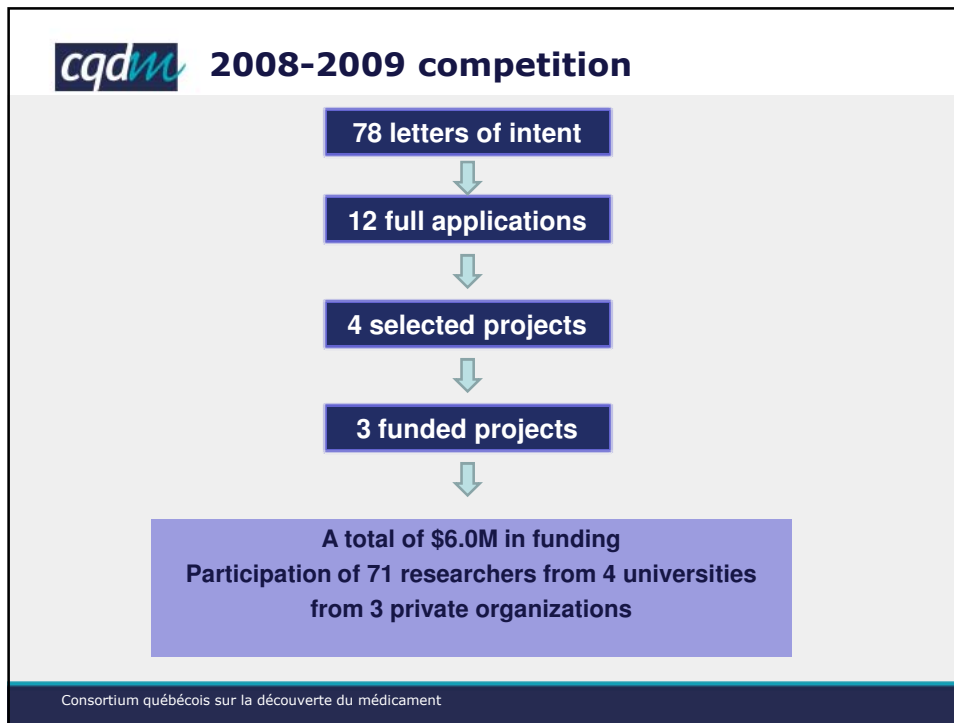
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 **Main evaluation criteria****4) Quality of the collaboration**

- Existence of a true public/private collaboration
 - ❖ Not mandatory but strongly recommended
 - ❖ The project can be led by a public or private research entity
 - ❖ Eligible private organizations include Biotechs or CROs
- Synergism and complementarities among of the investigators
- Relevance of the expertise of each investigator to carry out the project

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2008-2009 competition

Research themes of the funded projects

1) Biomarkers in diabetes (E. Paramithiotis, Caprion Proteomics)

- Early diagnosis
- Better monitoring of the progression of the disease
- Evaluation of response to treatments

2) Biosensors to dissect GPCR induced signalling pathways (M. Bouvier, IRIC)

- Monitoring of multiple signalling pathways
- Signalling signature for the prediction of activity and side effects of new drugs

3) Discovery platform for new vaccine VLP antigens (L. Vézina, Medicago)

- Generic high-throughput expression & purification platform for VLP antigens
- Rapid identification of immunogenic VLP vaccine candidates among several classes of viruses
- Generation of genetic engineered virus-virus chimeras

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Mentorship program

In the scope of the mentorship program, an industrial advisory committee will be formed

- Specific to each CQDM project
- Composed of industrial mentors from CQDM pharma sponsors
- Advisory role in orientating the project toward the needs of the bio-pharmaceutical research industry
- 2 meetings /year coordinated by CQDM
- Continuous informal interactions throughout the year between the mentors and researchers
- An opportunity for researchers to get closer and collaborate with the pharma industry

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Questions?