



CQDM selects 4 new projects from its 2011 Focus competition

MONTREAL, QC, April 28th 2011. With the completion of its third competition, CQDM is pleased to announce the selection of 4 new outstanding projects. It brings to 11 the number of projects funded within the CQDM Focus program for a total of \$17.8M committed to 18 research entities. Although the projects selected this year originate from several sectors of activities and therapeutic areas, they all address major issues faced by the biopharmaceutical industry. All the projects funded by CQDM have the potential to significantly improve the productivity of biopharmaceutical research, to open doors to new therapeutic avenues or to facilitate the development of new drugs.

A total of 41 letters of intent were submitted to CQDM this year within the Focus program. “The level of the competition was extremely high this year with several very strong projects. We are proud to support these new selected projects. We would like to congratulate the winners and thank all the applicants” said Diane Gosselin, VP Research and Business Development of CQDM.

This year, the selected projects are:

- 1) **A non-invasive imaging method for the early diagnosis and follow-up of patients with pulmonary hypertension.** Jocelyn Dupuis, Montreal Heart Institute (Co-investigators: Alain Fournier, INRS-Institut Armand-Frappier; François Harel, Institut de Cardiologie).
- 2) **Magnetic resonance guided drug delivery platform for the treatment of colorectal cancer.** Sylvain Martel, École polytechnique de Montréal (Co-investigators: Michael Atkin, Syzent Partners; Danuta Radzioch, McGill; Maryam Trabrizian, McGill, Louis Gaboury, Université de Montréal; Pieter Cullis, University of British Columbia; Te Vuong, McGill; Nicole Beauchemin, McGill; Gerald Batist, McGill).
- 3) **Selectomics to monitor and predict the emergence of resistance to antibiotics.** Michel Bergeron, Université Laval (Co-investigators: Marc Ouellette, Université Laval; Jacques Corbeil, Université Laval; Paul Roy, Université Laval; Sylvie Trottier, Université Laval; Marc-Christian Domingo, Laboratoire de santé Publique du Québec; Maurice Boissinot, GenePOC).

- 4) **Development of integrated tumor-microenvironmental biomarkers for personalized therapy against breast cancer.** Morag Park, McGill University (Co-investigators: Michael Hallett, McGill; Atilla Omeroglu, McGill; Pascal Puchois, Trans-Hit Biomarkers Inc).

About CQDM

CQDM is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to identify, fund and support research aimed at developing tools that will facilitate and accelerate the discovery and the development of safer and more effective drugs. The CQDM funding of the Focus program is provided by its public and private partners: FRSQ, MDEIE, BL-NCE, Pfizer Canada, AstraZeneca Canada and Merck. For more information, visit: www.cqdm.org

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