



Press Release

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CQDM announces the results of its 2009-2010 competition

Five innovative projects were selected during this year's competition

MONTREAL, QC, May 3rd 2010. CQDM has chosen 5 exceptional projects for a total investment of \$7.8 M distributed among 4 companies and 4 universities in Québec. Through enabling tools and technologies, these projects will allow the acceleration of new drugs discovery in several therapeutic areas. All selected projects went through an extensive evaluation process involving, among others, an assessment by an independent panel of scientific and industrial experts organized by the Fonds de la Recherche en Santé du Québec (FRSQ) and a risk analysis performed by CQDM.

CQDM encourages multidisciplinary projects well aligned with the needs of the biopharmaceutical industry. The selected projects gather high calibre researchers who are international leaders in their respective fields. « This year, the competition was very strong because all submitted projects were of high scientific quality. We are very happy with the competition results and we congratulate all the winners», said Max Fehlmann, President & CEO of CQDM.

This year, the CQDM selected projects aim at:

- 1) Developing a novel discovery platform for the identification of molecules against cryptic allosteric sites on intracellular targets (Sylvain Chemtob, Allosteria Pharma Inc.);
- 2) Identifying new synthetic lethality opportunities for the discovery of new therapeutic approaches in oncology (Gordon Shore, McGill University);
- 3) Designing and validating a new generation of label-free biosensors with the capacity to monitor in real-time several analytes in living organisms (Emanuel Escher, Université de Sherbrooke);
- 4) Developing a novel approach based on phages in order to accelerate the screening for antiherpetic molecules (Matthias Götte, McGill University);
- 5) Using electroretinography (ERG) profiles to stratify patients with major psychiatric disorders (Michel Maziade, Université Laval);



The presentation and announcement of the selected projects will be made on June 8th, 2010 during the CQDM and Montreal InVivo 2nd Forum on **Creative Partnerships in Biopharmaceutical Research**. The event will take place at the Mount Stephen Club in Montreal.

About CQDM

CQDM is a not-for-profit organization that responds to the needs of the pharmaceutical industry by contributing to the acceleration of drug discovery and the development of safer and more effective drugs. The CQDM funding 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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