



For immediate release

### 2014 Focus Competition: Results of Project Preselection

Montreal, December 20, 2013. – CQDM is proud to announce the preselection of 9 exceptional and innovative projects from its 2014 Focus Competition. These projects are presented below.

Applicants whose letters of intent were preselected are invited to submit a full proposal by March 13, 2014. The proposals will then go through a scientific evaluation by an international committee under the responsibility of the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé (FRQS). In parallel, an analysis performed by the CQDM will evaluate various aspects of the research for potential risks that could impede the achievement of the results.

The results of both assessments will be presented to CQDM's Strategic Orientation Committee which will additionally assess the projects' impact on biopharmaceutical research prior to recommendation to CQDM's Board of Directors. The final results will be announced during the Summer of 2014.

CQDM congratulates all preselected teams and thank all researchers who have submitted projects for the 2014 Focus Competition.

#### Projects selected for full application under the Focus Competition 2014

Principal Investigator	Affiliation	Project Title
Cloutier, Guy	Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal Research Centre (RCCHUM)	An integrated imaging platform for ultrasound-based assessment of stroke risk in HIV infected individuals
Corbeil, Jacques	Université Laval	Computational and machine learning approaches to improve design and screening of high bioactivity peptides for drug discovery
D'Amours, Damien	Institute for Research in Immunology and Cancer (IRIC), Université de Montréal	New engineered kinases as predictive tools to benchmark the therapeutic outcomes of key drug targets in disease treatment
Gilbert, Caroline	Université Laval	ExoMesoFlow, an exosome-based biotechnology platform for research and personalized medicine.
Kremer, Richard	Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre	Interrogation of molecular profiles in Circulating Tumor Cells (CTC) for breast cancer

Lesur, Olivier	Université de Sherbrooke	<i>In vivo</i> fluorescence micro-endoscopy, a real-time cutting-edge imaging technology of the sick lung
Murgita, Robert	McGill University	PACE: A Novel In Silico Platform for Rational Drug Design
Sladek, Robert	Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre	Integrated platform to evaluate therapeutic targets using genome-wide association data
Tessier, Philippe	InflammatRx Inc.	Development of antibody-like molecules based on the use of a PapMV based protein scaffold

### About CQDM

CQDM is a pharma-based consortium active in pre-competitive research whose mission to fund projects in order to accelerate the discovery of new safe and efficacious drugs through the development of innovative tools and technologies. Unique in the world, CQDM's business model is based on a collaborative approach where all stakeholders share the costs of biopharmaceutical research and benefit from its results. CQDM also provides a crossroads where academia, governments, and the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries converge to address numerous complex medical challenges.

CQDM receives financial support from Pfizer Canada, AstraZeneca, Merck, Boehringer Ingelheim, GlaxoSmithKline, Eli Lilly Canada, Novartis Pharma Canada, as well as from Quebec's Ministry of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (MESRST) and under the Federal government's Business-Led Networks of Centres of Excellence program (BL-NCE).

-30-

Source: Helen Loughrey, Ph.D.  
Senior Director, Scientific Affairs  
CQDM  
Tel.: (514) 766-6661, ext. 2197  
Email: [hloughrey@cqdm.org](mailto:hloughrey@cqdm.org)