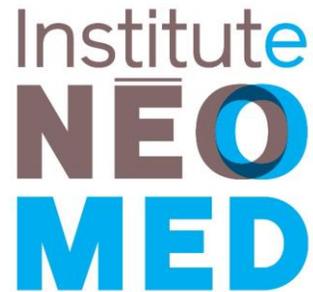


# News Release

May 31, 2018



## **GSK and NEOMED call for proposals for innovative early stage human therapeutic projects in Quebec**

*GSK and NEOMED are calling on Quebec-based researchers to submit their innovative projects in early drug discovery for potential funding under the GSK and NEOMED \$2 million Discovery Fund.*

**Montreal, QC,** – Today, GlaxoSmithKline Inc. (GSK) and the NEOMED Institute (NEOMED) are inviting researchers from Quebec-based academic centers or research institutes to submit an application for potential funding to help advance their innovative early stage human therapeutic research.

This first formal call for proposals follows GSK and NEOMED’s launch in 2017 of a \$2 million Discovery Fund dedicated to the translation of innovative Quebec-based therapeutic research into new medicines for the benefit of patients.

The Discovery Fund will provide selected projects with seed funding (estimated to be approximately \$100k/per project/year) to advance the efforts of one or more promising Quebec investigators conducting innovative research to the discovery of new medicines in any therapeutic area of unmet medical need. In addition to funding, successful candidates will benefit from ongoing mentorship and expert counsel provided by senior GSK and NEOMED scientists, and the use of NEOMED’s state-of-the-art facilities and network of industry service providers. It is expected that many of these projects will be at an early development stage and that the use of the funds will be to support target validation through lead drug candidate selection.

“GSK is committed to supporting Quebec’s life sciences sector and is excited about the opportunity to help accelerate innovation among the province’s internationally recognized scientific community through the Discovery Fund,” said Carolyn Buser-Doepner, Vice President and Global Head of Discovery Partnerships with Academia, GSK. “We are proud to work in collaboration with leading researchers in Quebec and across the globe to help translate scientific discoveries into new and better treatment options to address patient need.”

“Our discovery collaboration with GSK to identify and fund translational research based on discoveries emanating from Quebec universities and research centres is perfectly aligned with our mission to advance great scientific discoveries towards meaningful therapeutic options for patients,” noted Donald Olds, President & CEO of NEOMED Institute.

### **Discovery Fund Parameters and Application Process**

We are looking for projects in any disease area and based on any treatment modality, be it small molecules or biopharmaceutical. Medical devices, biomarker strategies, novel research platforms, drug delivery or drug re-purposing projects will not be considered for the Discovery Fund.

Researchers are invited to apply by submitting the 5-page form below. Proposals should be submitted at [pescoffier@neomed.ca](mailto:pescoffier@neomed.ca) by June, the 22nd.

Finalists will have the opportunity to introduce their research program to the Discovery Committee with representatives from both GSK and NEOMED in a 30-minute presentation.

[DOWNLOAD THE FORM](#)

### **About the GSK and NEOMED Discovery Fund**

The \$2 million Discovery Fund launched in 2017 aims to advance and de-risk innovative therapeutic targets of strategic interest to GSK and NEOMED arising from academic and research institutes in Quebec. Since the inception of the Discovery Fund, NEOMED and GSK have initiated a joint agreement with a Quebec-based academic team to invest \$400,000 over 2 years to identify new targets against the HIV virus.

GSK and NEOMED will each contribute \$1 million (\$200,000 per year over five years) to the Discovery Fund, which will provide seed funding to advance leading-edge scientific discoveries from the laboratories of one or more promising Quebec investigators conducting research on innovative therapeutic targets, from target validation to lead drug candidate selection. Successful projects will continue to be advanced through project-specific collaboration agreements, terms of which will be negotiated once an appropriate milestone is achieved.

A Discovery Committee with representatives from both GSK and NEOMED will review and select projects for progression. Fully integrated project plans will be developed in collaboration with GSK and NEOMED scientists, in which the investigator will play a crucial role.

### **About GlaxoSmithKline Inc. (GSK)**

GSK is a science-led global healthcare company with a special purpose: to help people do more, feel better, live longer. For further information, please visit [www.ca.gsk.com](http://www.ca.gsk.com).

**About NEOMED Institute (NEOMED)**

The NEOMED Institute is a successful and innovative Canadian not-for-profit R&D organization with a single mission: to enable and accelerate the commercialization of Canadian life science discoveries. To accomplish this mission, NEOMED Institute operates two complementary and integrated divisions:

- NEOMED Therapeutics in-licenses great scientific discoveries from Canadian academic centers and research institutes and then funds and develops these programs to stages that are attractive for partnering or stand-alone financing. All proceeds from successful out-licensing and exits are re-invested in new pipeline projects.
- NEOMED Innovation Centre operates a world-class life sciences ecosystem in Montreal, Quebec, that was created as an enabling environment for biotechnology and contract research organizations to establish, grow and prosper. Today the NEOMED Innovation Centre hosts 30 life sciences companies employing over 350 people who work in our two state-of-the-art R&D centers. Our tenants benefit from NEOMED's shared services model (analytical chemistry/in vivo pharmacology, etc.) and an entrepreneurial culture enabled by collaboration and scientific innovation.

The NEOMED Institute is funded by pharmaceutical partners, the Ministère de l'Économie, de la Science et de l'Innovation du Québec, and the Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) of Canada as well as the revenue generated from the out-licensing/sale of their pipeline projects and the operation of their facilities. For more information, please visit [www.neomed.ca](http://www.neomed.ca)

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