



International Lecture Series

Disease Biology and Molecular Medicine

ALL WELCOME!



Prof. Chas Bountra

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13 March 2017
19:00 h

Historischer Saal
Stadtmuseum Halle
im
Christian-Wolff-Haus
Große Märkerstr. 10
(ca. 100 m vom
Marktplatz)

“Accelerating our understanding of human diseases and the discovery of better medicines”

Chas Bountra is chief scientist at the Oxford branch of the Structural Genomics Consortium (SGC), Professor of Translational Medicine in the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine and Associate Member of the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Oxford. He is also a Visiting Professor in Neuroscience and Mental Health at Imperial College, London. His current interests are i) using X ray structures of novel human proteins to generate small molecule inhibitors, screening in human cells to identify novel targets for drug discovery, and then developing clinical candidates for evaluation in patients ii) focussing on epigenetic and genetically identified proteins, because these are likely to represent better targets for drug discovery, for many cancer, inflammatory, metabolic and neuro-psychiatric diseases iii) working with colleagues in Oxford to build major programmes in rare diseases and in Alzheimers Disease, and creating a “BioEscalator” for the rapid translation of SGC science and iv) building stronger links with local hospitals, patient groups, regulatory agencies, private investors, CROs, biotechs and large pharma companies, to create a new, more efficient ecosystem for pioneer drug discovery.

Chas is an advocate for pre-competitive science, up to and including Phase IIa clinical studies. The SGC publishes all findings, works closely with over 100 academic labs across the world and 8 pharmaceutical companies, and shares all reagents and expertise freely.

Chas has worked in the pharmaceutical industry, and has experience of all stages of discovery and development. Prior to coming back to Oxford, Chas was Vice President and Head of Biology at GlaxoSmithKline. He was involved in the launch of Alosetron (Lotronex) for the treatment of irritable bowel syndrome, and was the first to show that neurokinin NK1 antagonists are anti-emetic in preclinical and clinical studies. He has progressed more than 40 clinical candidates, many of these into Phase II studies and 5 into Phase III studies. His therapeutic expertise is in neuro-psychiatric, gastro-intestinal (GI) and inflammatory diseases. Chas is an invited expert on several government and charitable research funding bodies, and an advisor for many academic, biotech and pharma drug discovery programmes. In 2012 he was voted one of the “top innovators in the industry”.

Selected publications

Expert Opin Drug Discov 2016;11(3):321-32. **Sci Adv** 2015 Nov 13;1(10):e1500723. **Cancer Res** 2015 Dec 1;75(23):5106-19. **Nat Chem Biol** 2015 Aug;11(8):536-41. **Nat Rev Drug Discov** 2015 Mar;14(3):149-50. **Lancet** 2014 May 10;383(9929):1637-47. **Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A** 2013 Dec 3;110(49):19754-9. **N Engl J Med** 2013 Nov 21;369(21):2012-20.



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