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Questions or Feedback?

- info@cdrd.ca

CDRD is located on the UBC Campus, Lower Mall Research Station. For more information visit www.cdrd.ca

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Latest News

CDRD's Chromatography Suite

In partnership with [Waters Corporation](#), CDRD has built a state of the art analytical chemistry laboratory with broad capabilities including: routine purity analysis of new chemical entities, analysis of samples in complex biological matrices, stability testing and preparative scale purification of compounds. At full capacity, over 2500 samples can be analyzed per day.

At the center of the analytical suite are three new ACQUITY UPLC Systems. These UPLCs are coupled to UV-PDA detectors, and one of either a triple-quadrupole mass spectrometer (TQD), or an evaporative light scattering (ELS) or fluorescence detectors. For purification of synthetic compounds or natural products, we have a mass & UV directed AutoPurification™ System. In addition, we have an Alliance® Dissolution System for automated dissolution and drug release testing; an Alliance® GPC System for polymer analysis, and a high-resolution Bioseparations System featuring a titanium/polymeric flow path for the fractionation and analysis of complex biomolecular mixtures.

Investigators who would like to access any part of this chromatography suite are encouraged to contact us. The equipment is available for use at a reduced rate for CDRD investigators and will be accessible as in-kind support for all CDRD approved projects.

For more information please contact:
[Lawrence Amankwa](#), [Richard Liggins](#), [John Coleman](#)

Featured Investigator

Dr. Sandi Dunn — Moving Research Forward

Dr. Sandra Dunn, a cancer investigator affiliated with the University of BC's Department of Pediatrics, Experimental Medicine and Medical Genetics had identified a protein necessary for cancer cell survival. When activated, the protein kinase Akt renders cancer cells resistant to traditional therapies. Dunn's lab identified a novel Akt substrate referred to as the Y-box binding protein-1 (YB-1); which they found is essential for the growth of aggressive forms of cancer. A promising development, but without the expertise to identify target molecules to inhibit the action of YB-1, the research and funding stalled. Sandi turned to CDRD for help in finding an inhibitor. With access to molecular chemistry expertise and CDRD bench space and equipment she and her CDRD collaborators moved the research forward and received a \$150,000 Proof of Principle (POP 1) grant from CIHR. To date, the team has identified over 10 potential compounds. The next phase will be to show efficacy and safety using chemical models and in vitro studies.

CDRD Facilities

CDRD unveils new labs

On June 4th, over 250 researchers and other members of the life science community attended CDRD's official launch and appreciation event. The highlight was touring through the five, almost fully equipped development labs required in drug development. The Honorable Minister Murray Coell, Minister of Advanced Education, Dr. Eliot Phillipson,

President and CEO of the Canada Foundation for Innovation and UBC President, Professor Stephen Toope addressed attendees and congratulated CDRD for reaching this milestone.

If you did not have the opportunity to tour the labs or would like a more detailed overview of the instrumentation and sophisticated technologies used in the labs, [please contact the appropriate Deputy Head](#).



Pictured from left to right:
Dr. Eliot Phillipson, Dr. Pieter Cullis (CDRD's Scientific Director) Natalie Dakers (CDRD's CEO), Minister Murray Coell, and Dr. Stephen Toope.

News Briefs

Seeking a few good people

CDRD is looking to hire Post Docs who are interested in all aspects of the drug discovery and process from target identification, screening, design and synthesis, drug formulation and delivery and evaluation. If you know of any graduate students who are seeking opportunities or Post Docs looking to return to Vancouver, we would greatly appreciate you directing them to our career section at cdrd.ca where they can find details on specific opportunities. Alternatively, you can contact Diane Gardiner, CDRD Human Resources, at (604) 221-7750 extension 113.

CDRD Inaugural Drug Development Conference

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the first CDRD Drug Development Conference on June 8th and 9th on the UBC campus. This conference is for CDRD investigators, industry participants, post docs, students, staff, and CDRD supporters and friends. It will feature invited lecturers who'll speak to the drug development process. It will also have talks and posters from CDRD Investigators and members of their laboratories. Stay tuned for further announcements about the speaker line-up, abstract deadlines, registration procedures and other details.