

Group Members: Gareth Owen, Flavio Salazar, Carlos Rovira, Masood Kamali-Moghaddam.

*Topic/Challenge Headline*

Cancer: Establish scientific contacts and funding opportunities between Chilean and Swedish Universities

*Description*

Over the last two years, scientific contacts between Sweden and Chile have already been established. While these contacts will continue, we are also interested in incorporating new lines of potential investigation and exchange. In a project between Dr Nibaldo Inestrosa, Dr Owen and Dr Olov Steiner (University of Lund), a project has been written entitled “Exploring the Chilean molecular diversity for novel biologically active secondary metabolites produced by microorganisms”. The principal focus will be neurodegenerative disease and cancer. Drs Ferreccio and Cortez (ACCDiS UC-UChile) are coordinating with the University of Lund for internal funds in Sweden to initiate an analysis of pesticide impact on human health. If successful, this project will incorporate into the Mauco Cohort initiative established by FONDAP-ACCDiS. Drs Quest and Dr Corvalan, together with Dr. Carlos Rovira of the University of Lund, will apply for a University of Lund lead applications for European funding. The aim of this project will be to better understand the variation and mechanisms of regulation present in gastric cancer. This will be in the part of an initiative of the FONDAP-ACCDiS.

Dr. Flavio Salazar-Onfray is a scientist who earned his doctorate at the Karolinska Institute- The Millenium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy. The group main contact will be Gareth Owen, PUC, who will have the overall responsibility of communicating with group members before, during and after the seminar in Chile.

*Research areas/Key words*

- Natural resources in Biomedicine
- Environmental (Pesticide) Monitoring in Biomedicine.
- Mechanism of Gastric Cancer progression
- Identification of cancer biomarkers based on post-translational

*Research questions*

Together can we understand the nature of cancer, placing emphasis in any regional variations that may be present. We will strive to identify new compounds to be used in cancer research and ask we we can develop new assays to find biomarkers for both cancer diagnosis and prognosis.

*Possible outcomes*

Student Exchange, Academic Exchange, Bilateral Centers of Investigation, Grant Applications, Access to technology, Access to patient material.