

## Children's Brain Tumour Drug Delivery Consortium Accelerating Progress in Drug Delivery

A belated 'Happy New Year' from the Children's Brain Tumour Drug Delivery Consortium (CBTDDC)! This international initiative aims to:

- (1) raise awareness of the challenge of drug delivery in childhood brain tumours, among colleagues in academia, industry, public and patient groups, charities, and funding and regulatory bodies; and
- (2) initiate and strengthen collaborations between international, multi-disciplinary clinicians and researchers whose combined expertise will accelerate the development and translation of drug delivery systems that target brain diseases.

### **Workshop on Drug Delivery to the Brain**

We are delighted to announce the date of our workshop, funded by Children with Cancer UK - 4th May 2018.



Aiming to advance translational research into drug delivery to the brain, this workshop will be run as an interactive sandpit, with ideas for grant proposals being developed throughout the day.

Representatives from funding bodies (including the EPSRC, Cancer Research UK, The Brain Tumour Charity and Brain Tumour Research) will be on hand to advise on proposals and to present on upcoming funding opportunities. See the [workshop pages](#) on our website for more information and to register.

### **Survey – Tell us what you want**

We are interested to know what information you, our stakeholders, would find most useful. We'd be very grateful if you could complete this [brief survey](#). Thank you.



### **Upcoming Conferences**

**26-27 February** - [World Congress on Pharmaceutical Sciences & Innovations in Pharma Industry, London, UK](#)

**26-28 February** - [Sohn Conference: Accelerating Translation of Pediatric Cancer Research, London, UK](#)

**26-28 February** – [CDDF 'Current and Future Challenges of Innovative Oncology Drug Development' Innsbruck, Austria](#)

**12-13 March** - [Formulation & Drug Delivery USA Congress, San Diego, USA](#)

**15-16 March** - [Blood-Brain Barrier Consortium Meeting, Portland, USA](#)

**19-21 March** - [Pharmaceuticals and Novel Drug Delivery Systems, Berlin, Germany](#)

**6 April** - [Blood-Brain Penetrant Inhibitors: Tools, Strategies and Design San Diego, USA](#)

**11-14 April** - [Society for Biomaterials, Atlanta, USA](#)

**1-3 May** – [Cancer Research UK Brain Tumour Conference, London, UK](#)

**4 May** – [CBTDDC Workshop on Drug Delivery to the Brain, London, UK](#)

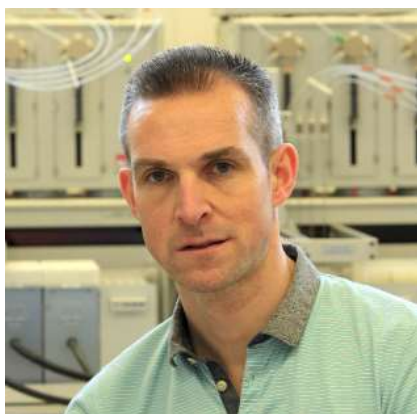
More conference are listed on our website, [here](#).

## **Spotlight**

In this newsletter, we feature CBTDDC member Dr Gareth Veal, who heads the Newcastle Cancer Centre Pharmacology Group, part of the Northern Institute of Cancer Research at Newcastle University.

Gareth is a pharmacologist who has worked in the area of paediatric oncology for over 15 years, focusing on the pharmacology of anticancer drugs and individualisation of therapy. He is also a member of the European Network of Paediatric Research at the European Medicines Agency (Enpr-EMA), a group established to foster high-quality, ethical research on the quality, safety and efficacy of medicines for use in children.

In Gareth's words, 'Over a number of years my group has focused on how we can improve our knowledge of the clinical pharmacology of anticancer drugs and how this information can be used to optimise the way that we treat childhood cancer patients. For particularly challenging patient groups we have focused on individualisation of treatment, looking to ensure that each patient achieves the most appropriate drug exposures to maximise clinical response whilst minimising the side-effects of chemotherapy.'



'Children with brain tumours present a significant challenge which in many cases will require the development of novel drug delivery systems in order to achieve drug exposures in the brain that will lead to effective responses in patients.'

'I look forward to working with members of the CBTDDC group and wider networks to incorporate pharmacological studies within the development of new drug delivery research platforms to address the considerable challenges that we face in this area. Working together we can look to make real differences in terms of improving clinical outcome for children with brain tumours.'

More information can be found on Gareth's [research page](#).

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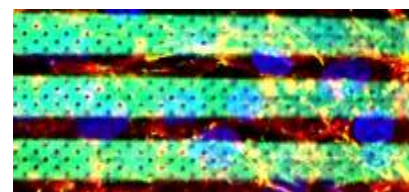
**Collaborative research  
database:**

<http://www.cbtddc.org/research/list.aspx>

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## **Image/video of the month**

Confocal image of 3D bio-hybrid microfluidic blood-brain barrier model: endothelial cells have been stained in blue for nuclei, in red for f-actin, in green for tight junctions.



*Image kindly supplied by  
Gianni Ciofani,  
Italian Institute of  
Technology*

If you would like to submit an image/video for future newsletters, please [send us](#) the file plus a caption.