



GSK signed a collaboration agreement with the MINCYT and the UK Francis Crick Institute

The laboratory will invest 450,000 dollars for 3 years in research conducted by scientists from the CONICET.

Buenos Aires. March 7, 2017. The pharmaceutical company GSK in Argentina signed a tripartite collaboration agreement with the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation (MINCYT, Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva) and the prestigious British research site Francis Crick Institute in order to start a public-private partnership between Argentina and the United Kingdom.

The two parties will encourage scientific and technological innovation in areas of common interest through projects related to highly relevant therapeutic specializations, such as Immunology, Oncology and Inflammation.

Signing this document means that Argentine scientists from the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET, Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas) will travel to the United Kingdom to conduct research projects at the Crick Institute for three years. In addition, GSK will finance the material costs of the selected projects, and the MINCYT will defray the cost of transportation and accommodation for researchers in the UK.

Along this line, the Francis Crick Institute will welcome researchers and make its facilities available to them, while GSK and the Crick Institute will supervise all laboratory work.

During this entire period, the British Government shall be responsible for supporting the transfer of researchers from the Francis Crick Institute to Argentina, who will provide information and training to local researchers.

The present agreement is based on the Trust in Science program that GSK has developed together with the MINCYT since 2011 and continues to date in the PAE format (Programas de Áreas Estratégicas, Strategic Areas Program) with the University of Córdoba, the University of Quilmes, the IBYME (Instituto de Biología y Medicina Experimental, Biology and Experimental Medicine Institute), and the Leloir Institute.

As regards the memorandum of understanding, the Argentine Minister of Science, Lino Barañao, has stated that "This agreement represents substantial innovation with respect to international cooperation, as the Ministry is now the partner of a first-class biomedical research Institute like the British Francis Crick Institute, and a global pharmaceutical company like GlaxoSmithKline. This ensures, on the one hand, that we are going to produce first-class basic information, and on the other hand, that in case applicable results are achieved, they may be promptly marketed thanks to the capabilities of the company. A very effective bond is then created, ranging from creation of original knowledge to new therapies beneficial for the patient."

The CEO & VP of Pharma GSK Argentina, Rodolfo Civale, has pointed out that "Signing this agreement means reinforcing our commitment with the development of science in our country, and it provides further evidence of our confidence in the professionalism and skills of Argentine researchers who, thanks to this scientific exchange agreement with the United Kingdom, may have access to the highest level of scientific research. This agreement is part of other important initiatives by GSK Argentina in the scientific field, such as the Trust in Science program with the MINCYT since 2011 and the opening of our regional clinical research site, announced last year".

In turn, the Director of GSK Trust in Science, Isro Gloger, has claimed that "This agreement is very important from several perspectives. First, it confirms acknowledgment of the high scientific level in Argentina. Second, it shows the close relationship started by GSK with the MINCYT and Argentine



researchers, reflected in a long-term investment, and also with the Francis Crick Institute. Finally, it has established a new international model of tripartite academic and industrial collaboration between

Argentina and the United Kingdom. This agreement will promote scientific progress and provide the possibility of developing new treatments against major diseases.”

The agreement is part of the work that GSK has performed with the MINCYT for more than five years through the Trust in Science program, where more than 109 researchers have been involved in more than 25 projects. This investment has been added to the 750,000 dollars allocated to projects developed by GSK together with the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation in Argentina.

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Godoy Cruz 2320, CABA | (011) 4899-5000 int. 2016 / 2006 / 2000 | www.mincyt.gob.ar

GSK

Fernanda Perez Cometto

Gerente de Comunicaciones GSK Argentina y Cono Sur

fernanda.x.perez-cometto@gsk.com

Agustina Mitjavila

IdentiaPR

amitjavila@identiapr.com