

# Drug Discovery and Development Platform

*Turning Discoveries into Innovations*



Information event 2023-01-24

Call for new drug discovery pilot projects at SciLifeLab DDD with special emphasis on new modalities and antibiotics

DDD platform Directors:

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# SciLifeLab DDD Objective

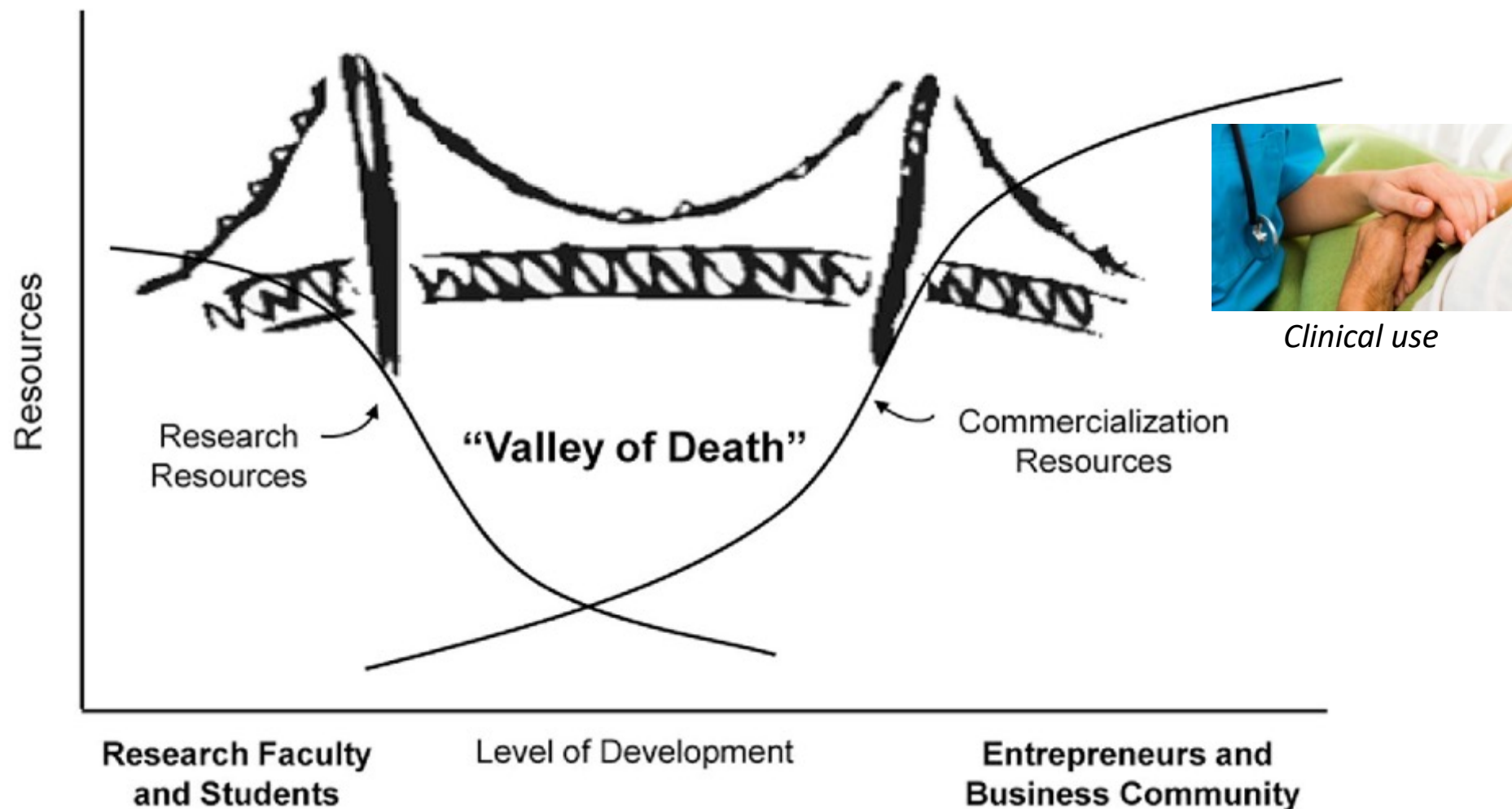
*"Turn academic discoveries into innovations"*



Drug Discovery?

Validation?  
Proof-of-concept?  
Safety?  
Competition?  
Need?  
Biomarkers?  
Clinical?

....

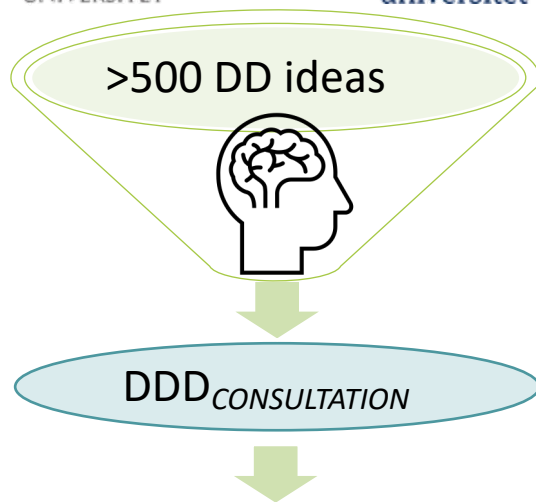




# SciLifeLab DDD Capabilities



*"Provide State-of-the-art Drug Discovery & Development knowledge in Sweden to support innovations"*



DDD<sub>PROGRAM</sub>

DDD<sub>SERVICE</sub>

HAND OVER

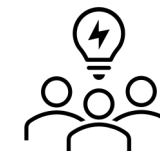


- **Small molecules**
- **Antibody therapeutics**
- **Oligonucleotides**
- **New modalities**



CBGE, Integrated Structural Biology, Cellular and Molecular Imaging, Metabolomics, Genomics, Bioinformatics, DataCenter, etc.

**Host Universities**  
UU, KTH, SU, KI, LU, GU



DDD<sub>COLLABORATIVE</sub>

- **Contractual ability**
- **Partnerships**
  - InnoPharma (Vinnova)
  - EUbOpen (IMI)
  - Conception (IMI)
  - ENABLE2 (VR)
  - MURYXIN (JPIAMR)
  - Nevermore Covid (SciLifeLab/KAW)
  - ...

**Validated DD programs**

Exits: 2 Programs & 40 Service / year

4 Clinical  
4 Internationally partnered  
9 Swedish biotechs (3 listed)





# Consultations and Project Review



## “Beginning with the goal in mind”

1. Scientific validity of the therapeutic approach
2. Medical need and differentiation from standard of care
3. Safety concerns
4. The competitive situation
5. A patent & publication strategy
6. The feasibility to conduct a phase 2 study
7. Competence and ability of PI team
8. Technical feasibility to develop a drug
9. PI entrepreneurship



# Anubis call for pilot-projects



[https://anubis.scilifelab.se/call/DDD\\_Pilot\\_Proj](https://anubis.scilifelab.se/call/DDD_Pilot_Proj)

SciLifeLab Anubis Calls Documentation About Login

Call for proposals **Call for new drug discovery pilot projects at SciLifeLab DDD with special emphasis on new modalities and antibiotics**

Identifier	DDD_Pilot_Proj
Opens	2022-12-01 00:00 UTC
Closes	2023-01-31 17:00 UTC <span>49 days remaining</span>

My proposal You need to be logged in to create a proposal. Login

Instructions for users  
Documentation: Call

Description

In this call, the Drug Discovery and Development Platform (DDD) at SciLifeLab is looking for new pilot project proposals for drug discovery. **All therapeutic modalities** are of interest. Of special interest are new project ideas for **new modalities** including **therapeutic oligonucleotides**, and in collaboration with ENABLE2 <https://www.ik.uu.se/enable2/>, projects for discovery of **new antibiotics**.

Note that shorter projects for selections in phage display libraries for antibodies and in DNA encoded chemical libraries for small molecules can be considered.

A description of new modalities in drug discovery research can be found here:  
<https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsmmedchemlett.9b00582>

If you have questions about the call please contact DDD by email ([dddprojectproposal@scilifelab.se](mailto:dddprojectproposal@scilifelab.se)). This call is open for scientists with a doctoral degree at a Swedish university or higher institution. English should be used when filling out this application. You are responsible for ensuring that the application is complete. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

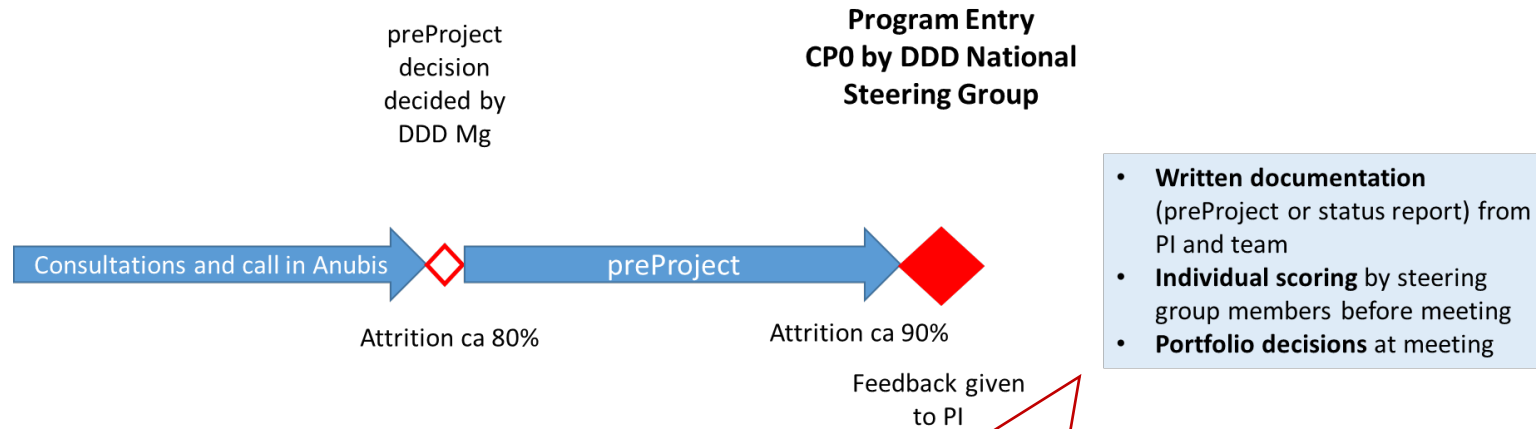
Documents -

SciLifeLab Data Centre Anubis 1.14.6

- Alternative way of contact with call deadline
- Provides suitable level of background
- Used to prioritize consultation meetings
- Used for external pre-review of Oligonucleotide projects



# Timelines Q1/Q2, 2023



## Important timelines early 2023

- National call in Anubis December 1<sup>st</sup> – January 31<sup>st</sup>
- preProject decision mid-February
- preProject phase: mid-February – late March
- Start of new programs: June 1<sup>st</sup>

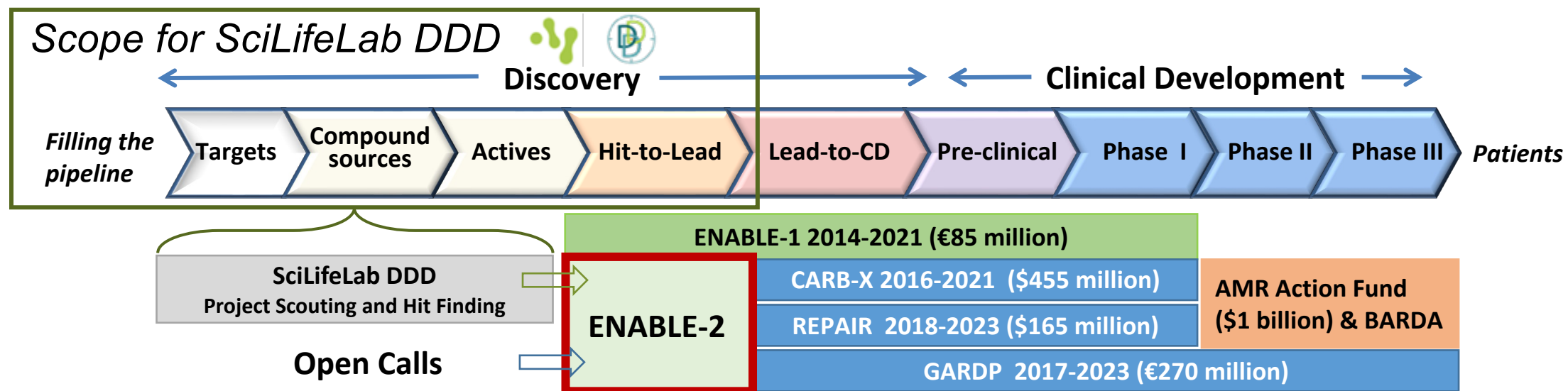




# Focus 1: ENABLE2 – antibacterial drug discovery



ENABLE2 – VR funded continuation of the IMI program for antibacterial drug discovery with focus on the early stages of antibiotic discovery and development.



## Enable2 entry thresholds

- Molecules/series with a novel mode of action targeting in-scope pathogens
- Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC)  $\leq 16 \mu\text{g/mL}$  vs. at least one of the key ENABLE-2 pathogens *E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae*, *P. aeruginosa*, *A. baumannii*, *S. aureus*, *E. faecium*
- Potential for optimization

Application and details:

<https://www.ilk.uu.se/enable2/apply/>

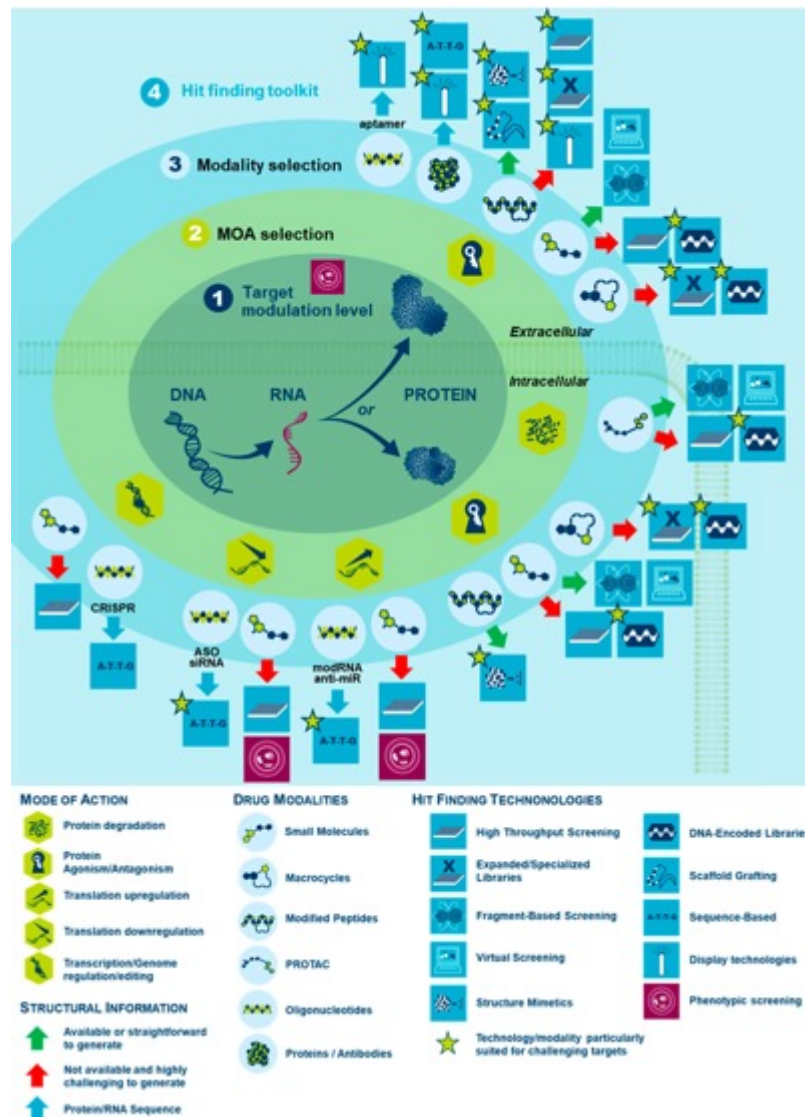
Call currently (Jan 2023) closed but projects fulfilling criteria is still encouraged to contact Anders Karlén



# Focus 2: Tomorrow's therapeutic modalities?



20 000 proteins  
3824 disease linked  
1265 "druggable"  
672 "drugged"



Drugging the  
"undruggable"

New modalities  
&  
New technologies

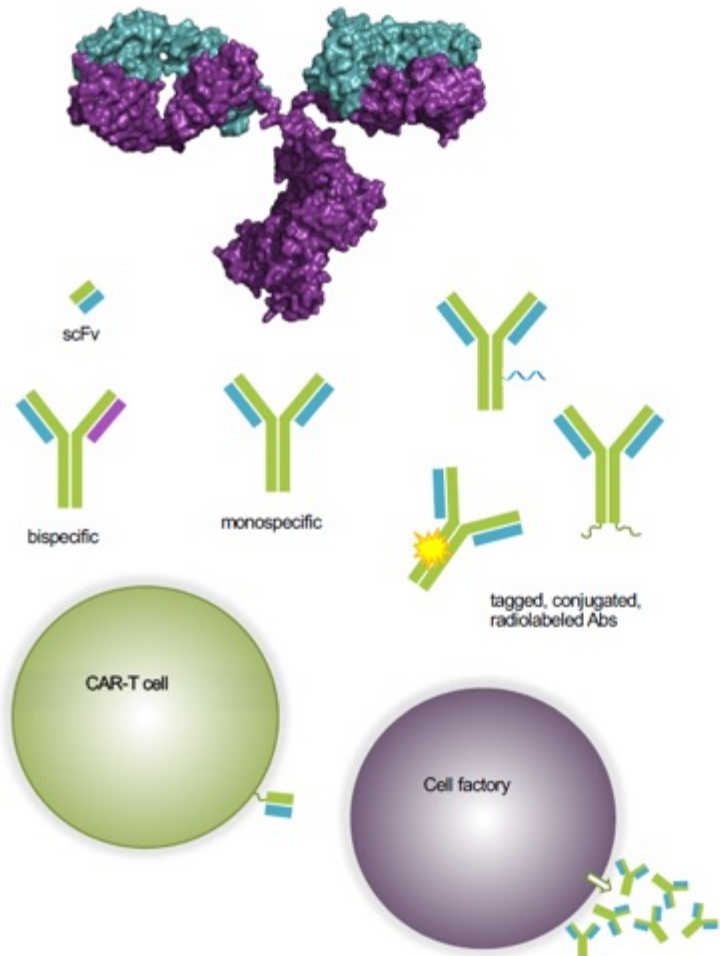
<20% of disease-linked proteome



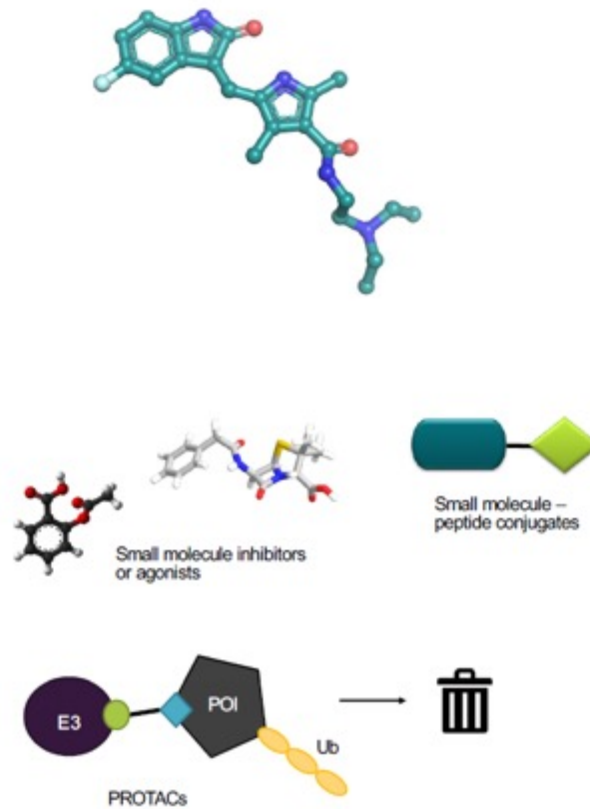


# DDD Toolboxes allows exploration of new modalities

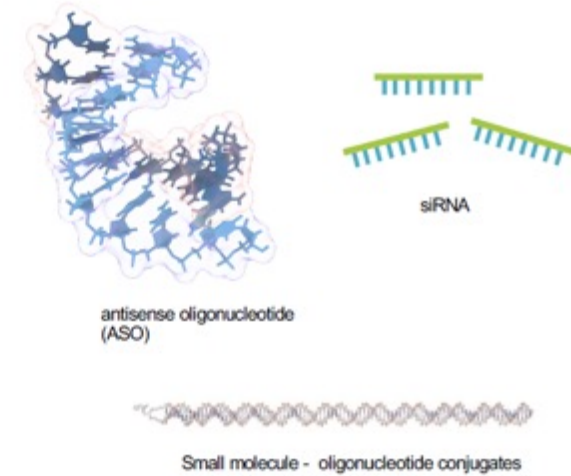
## Antibodies



## Small molecules



## Oligonucleotides



The modalities shown here are examples of past and present DDD projects

## Professor Pär Matsson

Scientific Director of the  
OligoNova Hub



A **national research platform** that provides academic researchers in Sweden with the support and capabilities essential to transform ideas and discoveries into new therapeutic oligonucleotides.

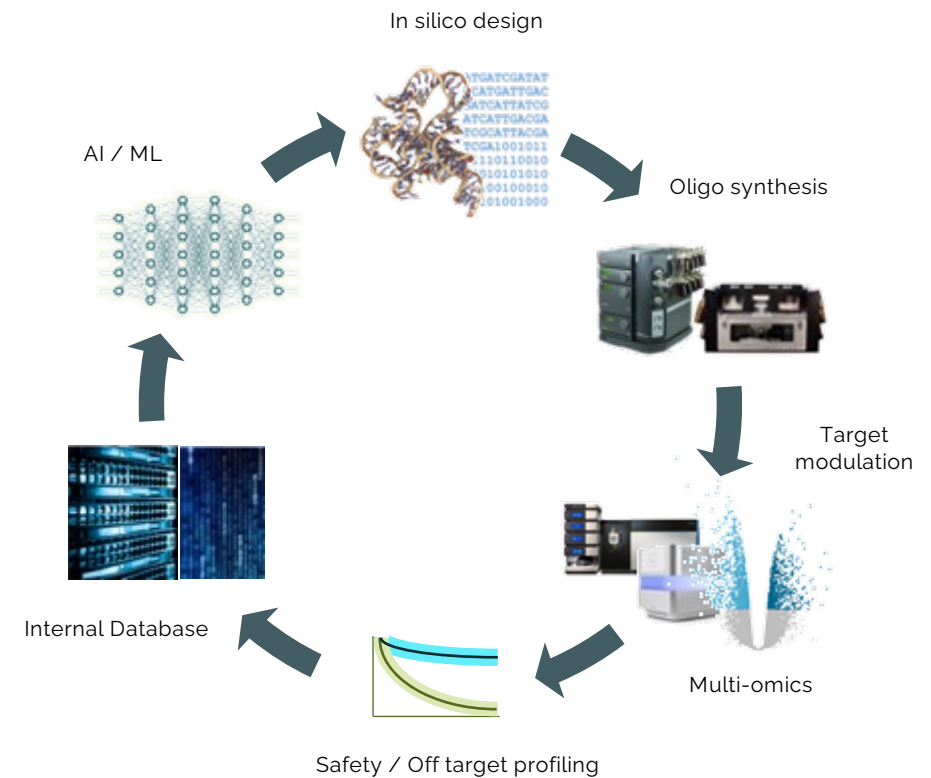
Part of the **SciLifeLab Drug Discovery and Development (DDD) platform** tasked with driving ideas for and research on novel therapeutic targets in Academia to preclinical Proof of Concept.

Home to 8-10 experts on oligonucleotide design, synthesis, and optimization, as well as assay development and oligonucleotide screening and imaging expertise.

Prioritized ideas and projects can access the entire infrastructure, services and knowledge via both the OligoNova Hub and the SciLifeLab DDD platform with around 40, highly motivated experts and scientists available for support.

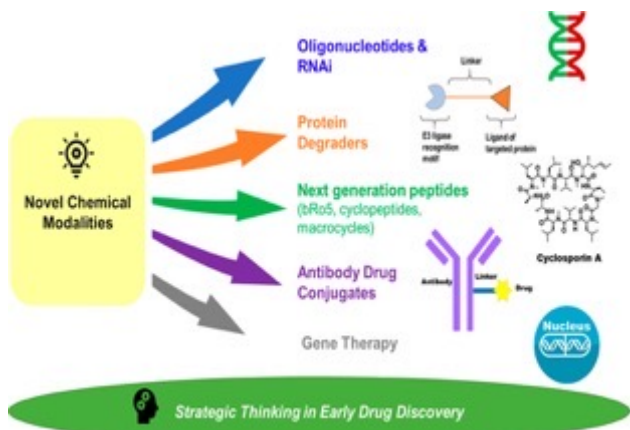
Established at the University of **Gothenburg** Core Facilities and physically located at the **AZ BioVentureHub** in the heart of **GoCo Health Innovation City**.

Expert capabilities on the design, synthesis, testing, and evaluation to drive drug projects.

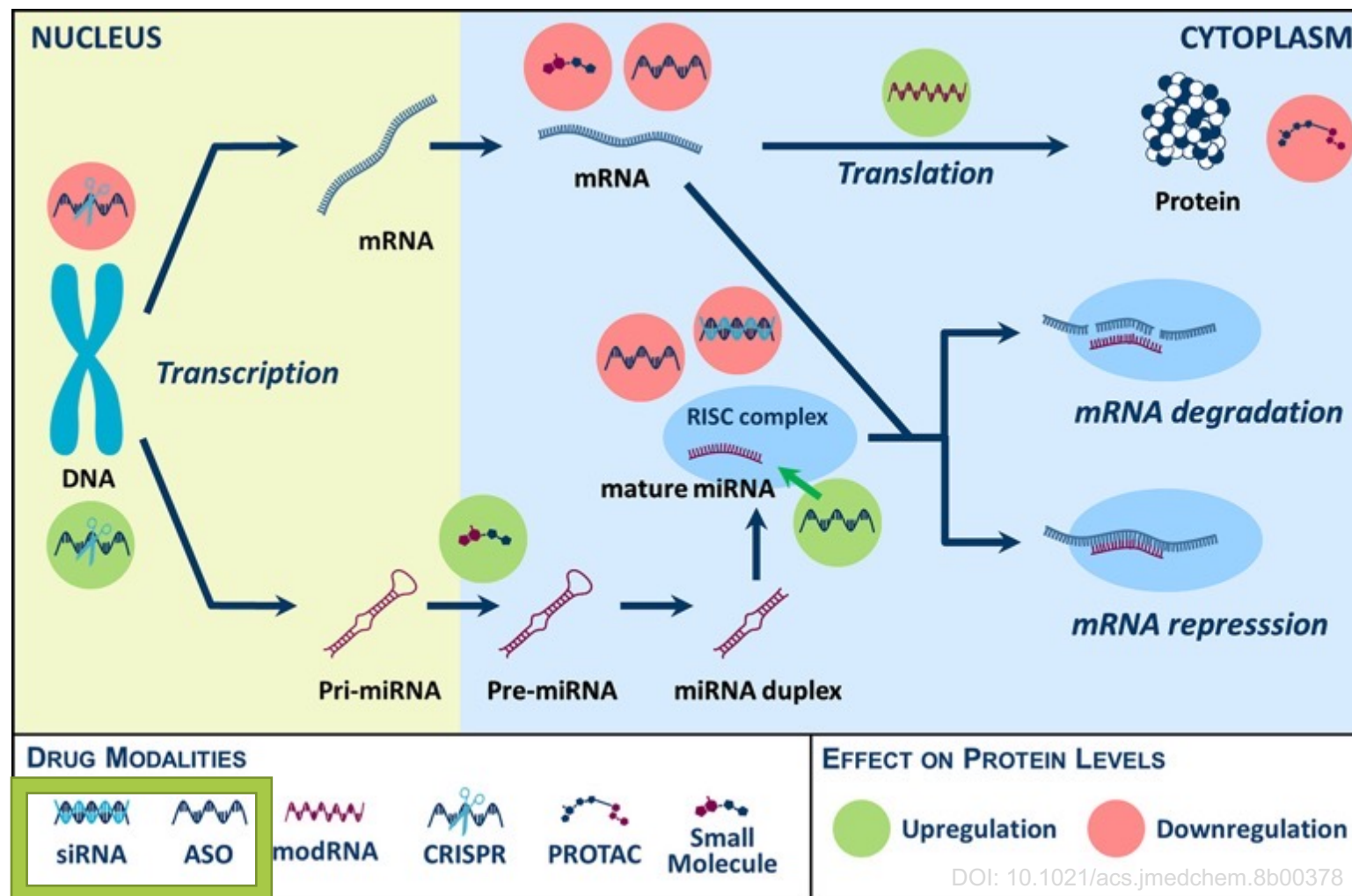




# siRNA and ASO Oligonucleotides



DOI: 10.1021/acsmedchemlett.9b00582

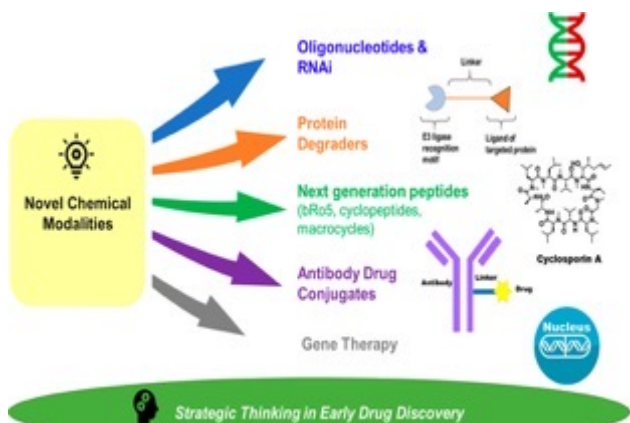


- Effect on protein levels – not activity
- Modify RNA splicing

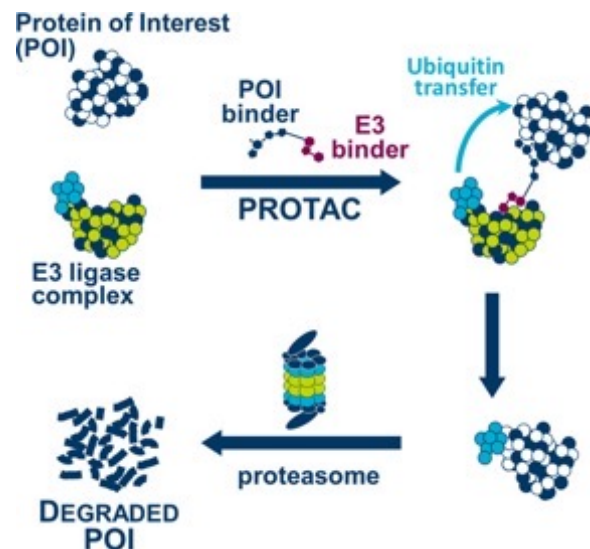




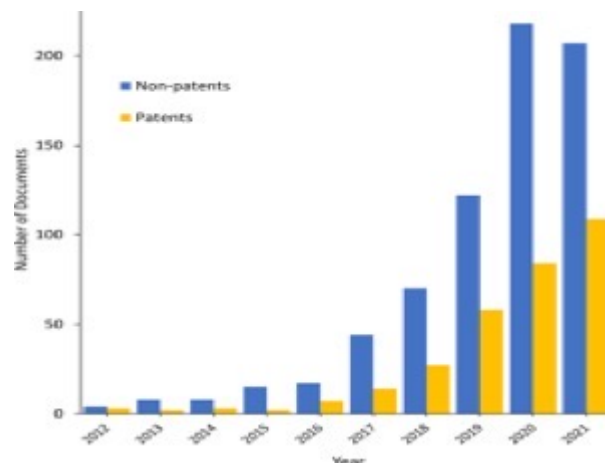
# Targeted Protein Degradation



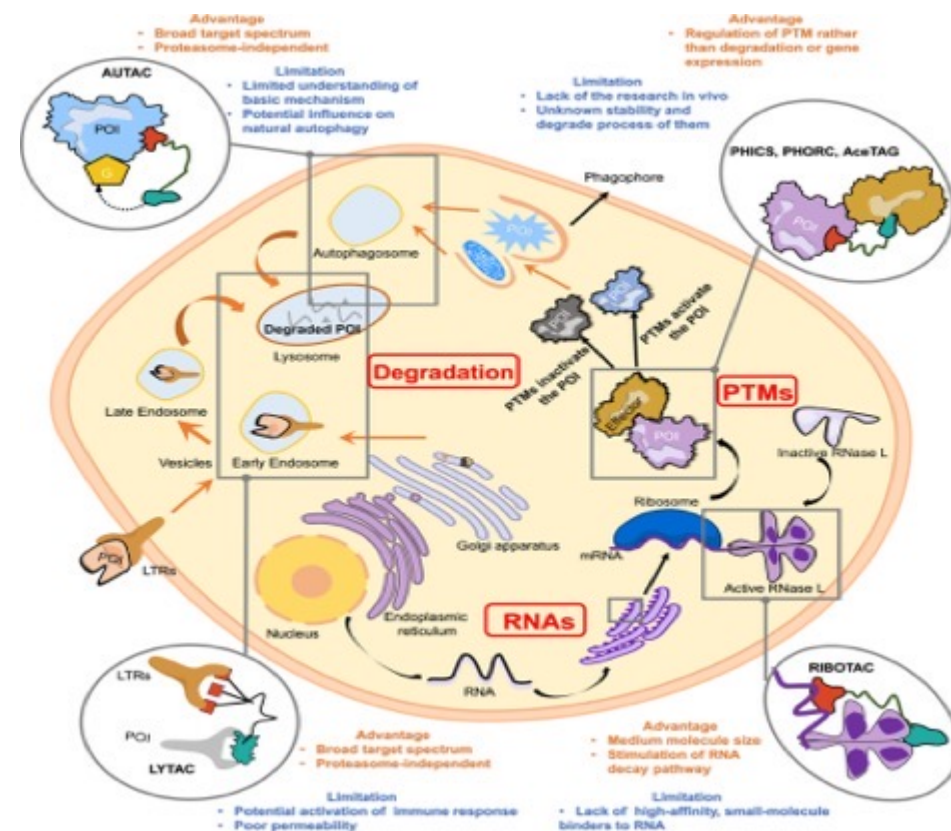
DOI: 10.1021/acsmchemlett.9b00582



DOI: 10.1021/acs.jmedchem.8b00378



Sasso et al, Biochemistry 2022, in press



Hue et al. *J. Med. Chem.* 2022, 65, 8091–8112

- Intra- or extra-cellular
- Small molecule TPD clinically validated
- LYTAC and AbTACs for non-proteosomal TPD



# Conjugates & Theranostics



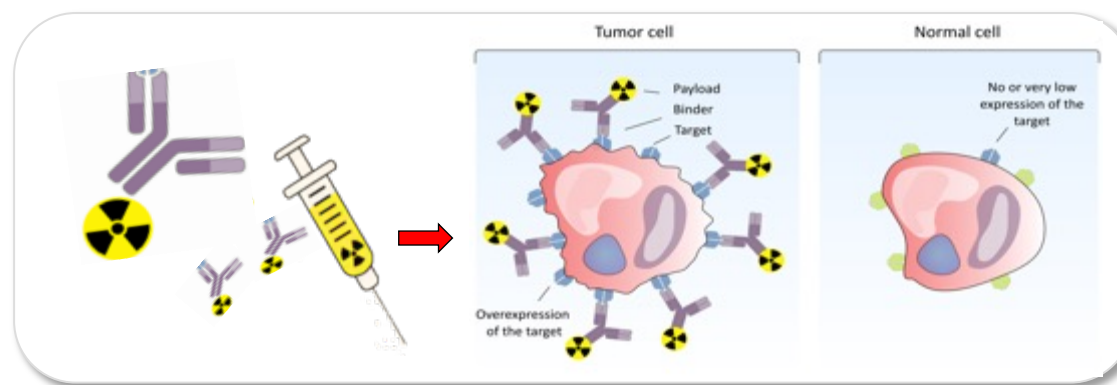
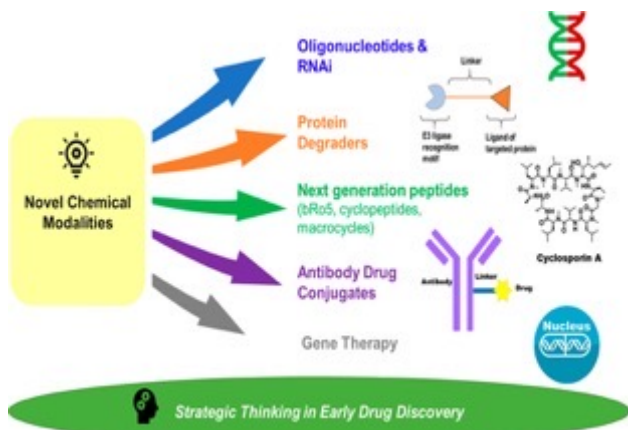
DDD exit in May 2022



**Marika Nestor, UU**  
Associate Professor,  
*Department of Immunology, Genetics and Pathology, Uppsala University*

Akira Therapeutics

(68M SEK 230112)



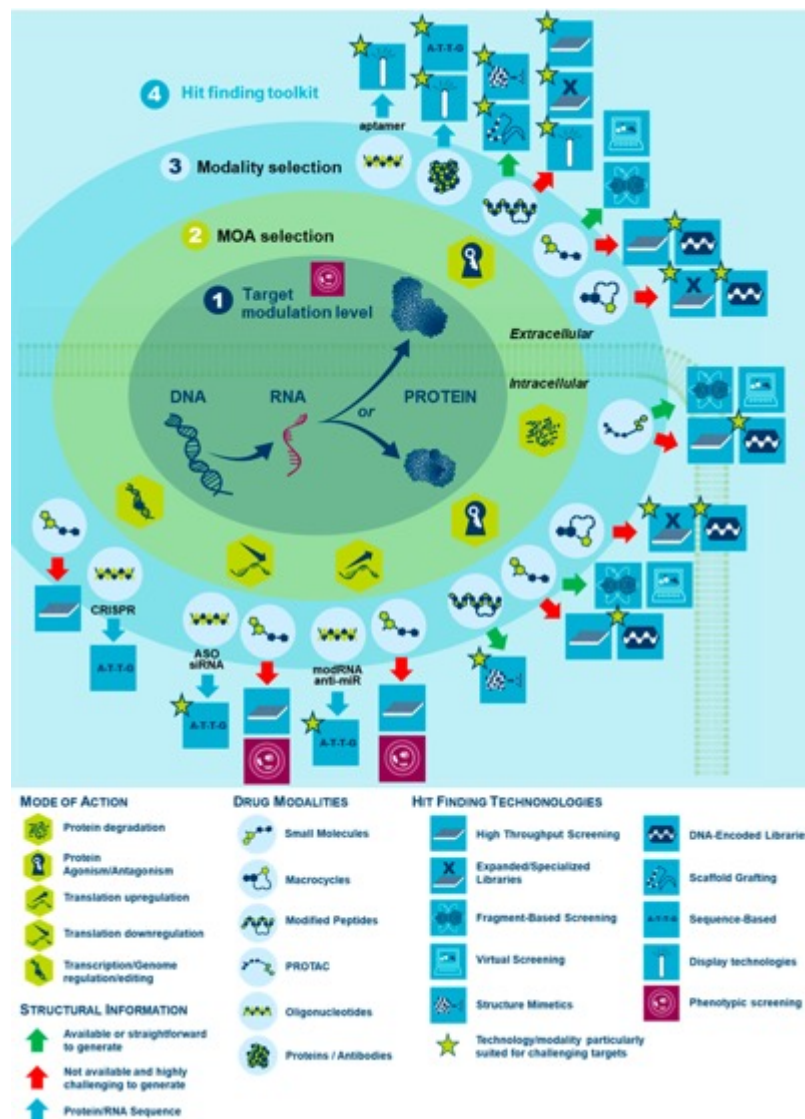
DOI: 10.1021/acsmchemlett.9b00582



# New modalities – New Technologies



20 000 proteins  
3824 disease linked  
1265 “druggable”  
672 “drugged”



Drugging the  
“undruggable”

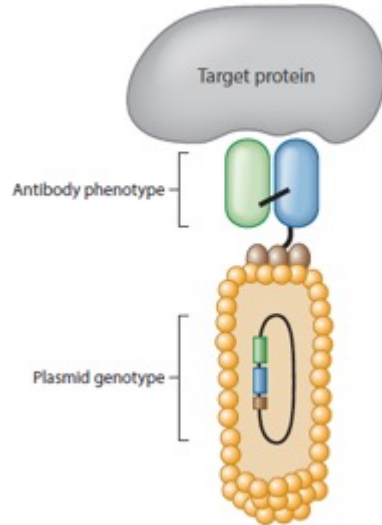
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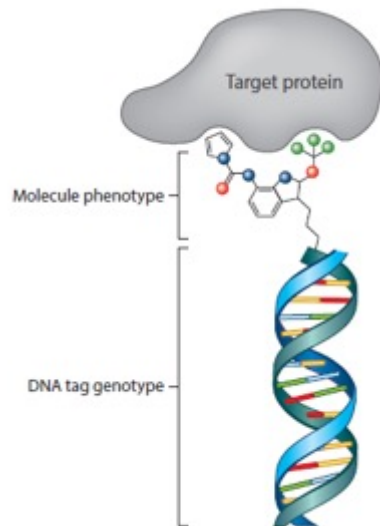


# New technology: Display & Selection Hit-finding



## Phage display for mAbs

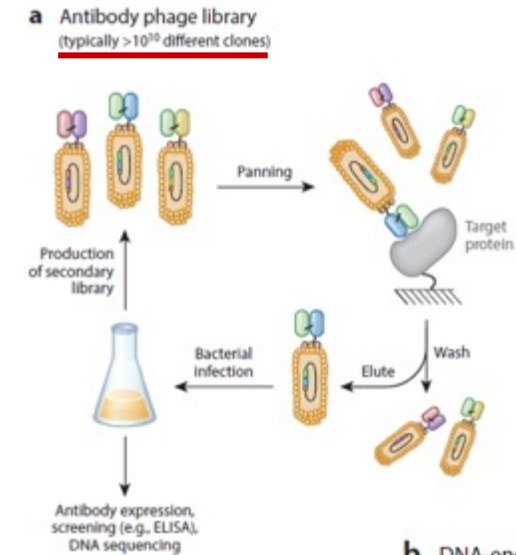
SciLifeLibs 1-5



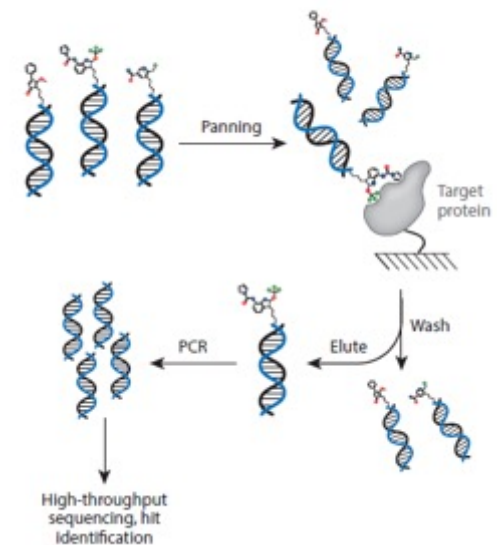
## DEL affinity selection for small molecules

New SciLifeLab DDD capability

Neri & Lerner *Annu. Rev. Biochem.* 2018



## b DNA-encoded chemical library

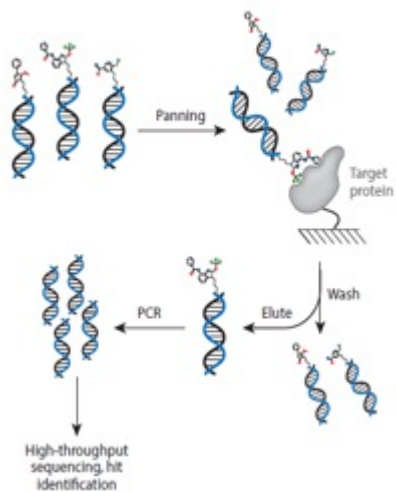




# Hit-finding technologies: Display & Selection



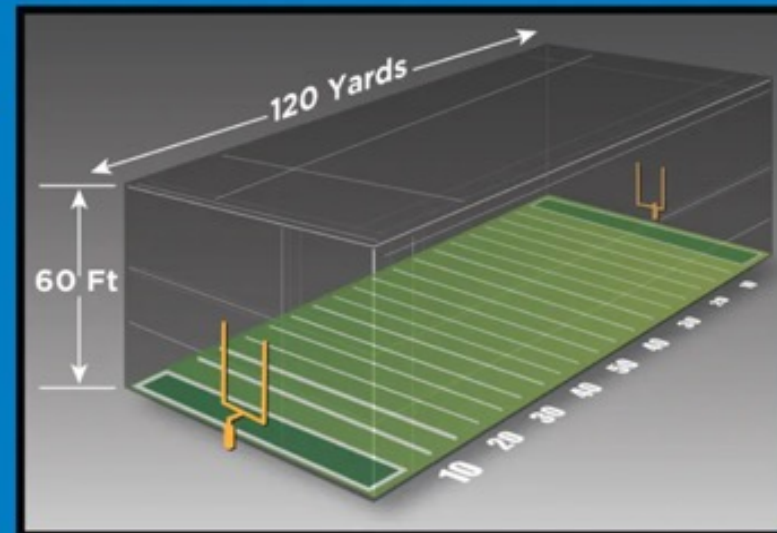
**b** DNA-encoded chemical library



Large DNA-encoded library



1,536-well microplate for HTS system



Size of plate stack needed to screen 1 trillion compounds

With DEL technology, you can make and screen libraries of up to a trillion or more compounds. What would it take to screen that many compounds with a conventional system? Using standard 1,536-well plates, you'd need a stack of plates large enough to cover an American football field—to a height of 60 feet. At the standard speed of 100,000 compounds a day, completing one full screen would take more than 27,000 years.

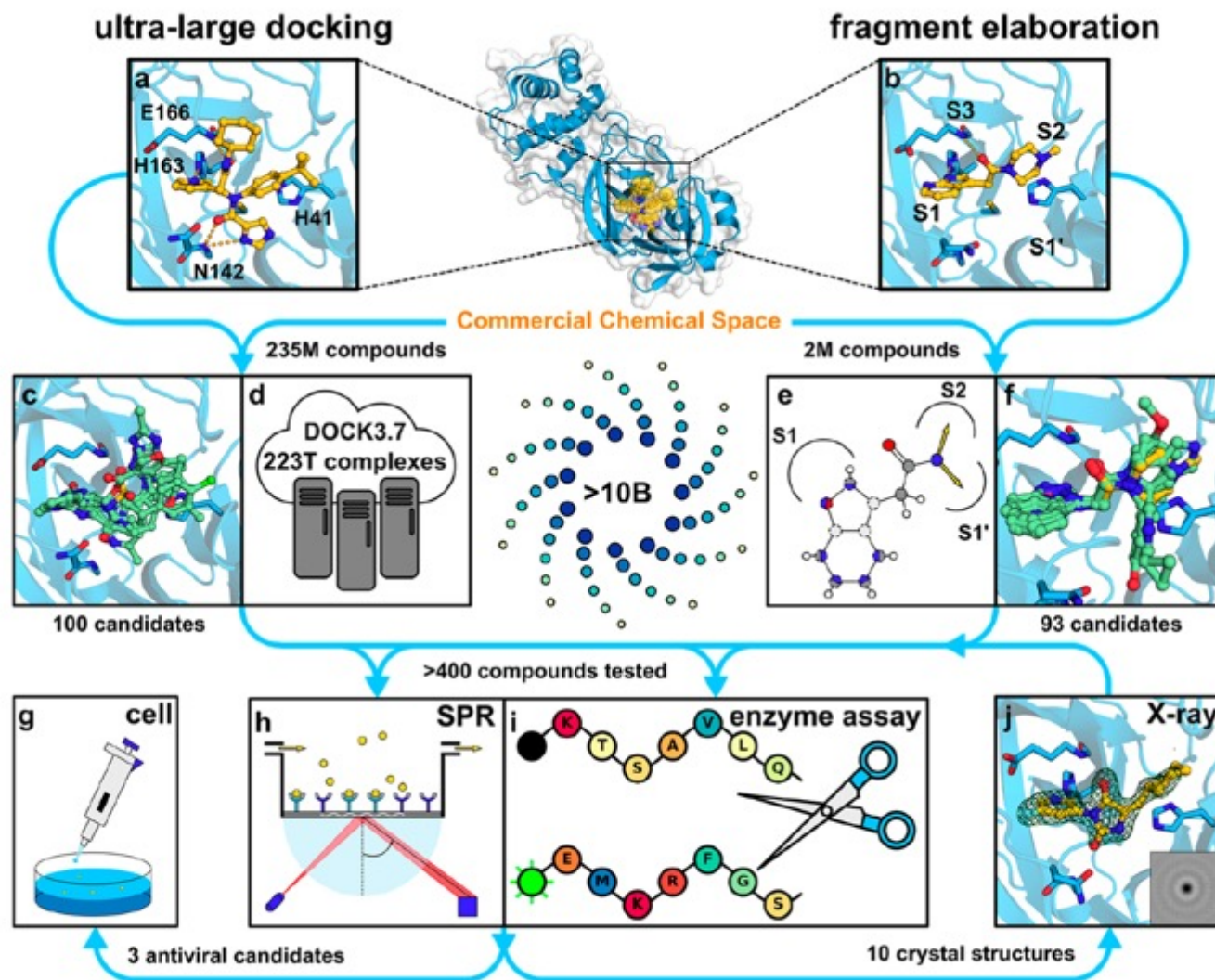
*Combine with ML to probe SM-POI affinity SAR directly from the screen*



# Hit-finding 2: In silico screen & Make on demand



- DDD & CBCS Technology
- Dev. Project with NBIS for exploring ultra large chemical space





# SciLifeLab Capabilities for Hit-finding



HTS Library	"Make on Demand" Libraries	DEL
Size: $<10^7$ Screening in microwell plates Functional cellular screen	Size: $<10^{10}$ In silico screening Experimental evaluation	Size: $<10^{13}$ Affinity selection in a tube Recombinant protein

**Technologies  
complement each  
other!**





# DDD Call: SM, mAbs, ONs, New modalities



[https://anubis.scilifelab.se/call/DDD\\_Pilot\\_Proj](https://anubis.scilifelab.se/call/DDD_Pilot_Proj)

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SciLifeLab has been created by the coordinated effort of four universities in Stockholm and Uppsala: Stockholm University, the Karolinska Institutet, KTH Royal Institute of Technology and Uppsala University.