

The Emergence of Drug Discovery in Academia: Case studies in Neurodegenerative Diseases

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Neurodegenerative diseases are challenging from a drug discovery perspective with virtually no disease modifying agents available on the market. The Laboratory for Drug Discovery (LDDN) was established in 2001 as a collaborative model for how academia can apply its research findings to drug discovery especially in diseases and approaches that are not commonly found in the pharmaceutical industry. The LDDN has an established track record of progressing projects along the drug discovery pathway, from assay development and high-throughput screening through medicinal chemistry on lead compounds and testing candidate drugs in animal models of disease. We have a brain-biased small molecule library of 150,000 compounds. The unique aspects of our center will be highlighted with case studies presented.