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## Emory starts drug discovery center

Atlanta Business Chronicle - by [Urvaksh Karkaria](#) Staff Writer[Print](#) | [Email](#) | [Reprints](#) | [RSS Feeds](#) | [Add to Del.icio.us](#) | [Digg This](#) | [Comments](#)

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**W** [Emory University](#) has established a drug discovery center.

The **W** [Emory Institute for Drug Discovery](#) will carry out early-stage discovery and pre-clinical drug research aimed at developing small-molecule therapeutics, and training new researchers.

The center will focus on commercially neglected diseases, global health partnerships, mentored research, and multidisciplinary interactions both within and outside Emory. The institute, for now, will

continue Emory projects already underway in tuberculosis, measles and malaria.

Financial details were not disclosed.

“Over the past few decades Emory has developed outstanding programs in both drug discovery and global health,” said James Wagner, president of Emory University, in a statement. “The Emory Institute for Drug Discovery enables us to link those strong, multidisciplinary initiatives with outstanding training programs in the sciences to create an Institute we believe will have a powerful and lasting impact on the health of people throughout the world.”

In other Emory news, the **W** [Emory Vaccine Center](#) (EVC) will team up with the **W** [Australian Centre for Vaccine Development](#) (ACVD) at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, to develop a vaccine research program.

The new Queensland-US Vaccine Technology Alliance was recently awarded a three-year grant of \$1.8M from the Smart Futures Fund of the Queensland National and International Research Alliances Program. Additional funding for the alliance will be provided by the ACVD and the EVC, with total project funding from all sources equaling \$8.5M over three years.

The new funding will boost the two vaccine centers' collaborative research programs and allow them to leverage funding from various agencies and foundations for large-scale vaccine research and development.

The alliance aims to develop novel vaccines for infectious diseases such as Group A Streptococcus, hook worm, schistosomiasis, malaria, HIV, pox virus, cytomegalovirus and Epstein-Barr virus. It also plans to develop vaccines and cellular therapies for cancers such as nasopharyngeal carcinoma, glioblastoma, melanoma and Hodgkin's.

The Emory Vaccine Center is billed as one of the largest academic vaccine centers in the

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world, and is known for its expertise in cellular immunity, immune memory, disease pathogenesis, vaccine research and development and clinical trials.

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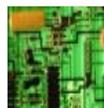
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