

The NCCR TransCure is happy to announce a new offer in the fields of KTT and education.  
Nine selected NCCR TransCure fellows can attend the following course by Novartis  
on scientific strategies and decision-making in pharmaceutical companies:

## D<sup>3</sup> (Drug Discovery and Development) Project Simulation

**September 26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**Basel, Novartis Campus**

**Application:** Interested NCCR TransCure PhD students, postdocs and PIs should submit:

- A one page CV
- A short motivational letter (about 300 word max.) stating why the applicant wants to attend the course.

Please send your application (PDF file attachment) by email to: [valentina.rossetti@transcure.unibe.ch](mailto:valentina.rossetti@transcure.unibe.ch)  
Successful candidates will be informed, including all relevant information, by the beginning of September.  
The course is open to 9 participants. The attendance of both days is mandatory.

**Application deadline: August 21<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Costs: no registration fee. Travel costs will be covered by NCCR TransCure.

Instructors: Ross Tracey (NIBR Cambridge) and Fernando Romero (NIBR Basel).

Target Audience: Individuals who wish to gain an understanding of drug discovery and development, and exposure to the scientific strategies and decision-making a pharmaceutical company's research organization may employ to develop safe, effective, and innovative medicines. A basic understanding of life sciences (biology, physiology, pathophysiology) will be assumed.

**For further questions:** please contact the NCCR TransCure KTT Delegate ([juerg.gertsch@ibmm.unibe.ch](mailto:juerg.gertsch@ibmm.unibe.ch)) or the scientific officer ([valentina.rossetti@transcure.unibe.ch](mailto:valentina.rossetti@transcure.unibe.ch))

### Course Description

This is an interactive and group discussion course, in which participants will be assigned roles in a project team tasked with the discovery and development of a new medicine. Participants will encounter and make decisions about various scientific challenges and possible research paths. The team will choose a therapeutic area and drug target, search for potential chemical leads, optimize and progress those leads through preclinical research, demonstrate the resulting drug candidate is safe and effective in patients, advance the drug through subsequent clinical trials, and ultimately submit the drug for registration with the health authorities. Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to:

- Explain and discuss unmet medical need, knowledge of mechanism, disease expansion opportunities, and other factors considered when evaluating/pursuing a therapeutic target
- Describe in general terms the stages of drug discovery and development and what activities typically occur in those stages
- Explain the contribution of different scientific/clinical disciplines to drug discovery and development
- Propose and justify key elements of decision-making studies, both pre-clinical and clinical, and recognize the importance of identifying the critical path unique to each project necessary to move it forward
- Recognize and discuss challenges a project team may encounter in their mission to discover and develop a new drug.