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OF MANCHESTER







GlycoBioM

Tools for the Detection of Novel Glyco-biomarkers

Glycosylation patterns on glycoproteins and glycolipids are involved in the regulation of inter- and intracellular recognition events and alteration of such glycosylation has been observed in many diseases, notably in a variety of cancers. We propose that a systematic, large scale investigation in this area will provide a rich spectrum of novel and structurally diverse carbohydratebased highly specific biomarkers. The aim of this project will be to address current bottlenecks in analytical techniques by developing an integrated multidisciplinary approach to glycobiomarker screening and analysis based on current state-of-the-art. We will bring together a number of complementary screening techniques developed in the individual partner laboratories, notably high-throughput LC-ms analysis of carbohydrates, lectins and carbohydrate arrays, to develop an overall workflow for the multiplex analysis of glycobiomarkers. Such carbohydrate-targeted methods will be combined with RNA/DNA and analysis (combining high throughput glycomics with genomics). It will be important to test the workflow against serum and tissue samples of healthy volunteer/cancer patients. In addition, we envisage that the project will generate new analytical tools that can be used in routine analysis of glycobiomarkers in the clinic, including diagnostic imaging. Some of the tools developed in this programme (lectins conjugated to nonoparticles) should also be useful for new quantitative imaging biomarkers for monitoring therapeutic effects and safety in cancer. The involvement of three SME partners will ensure that the technology is compatible with commercial applications.