MISSION

Our mission is to advocate new therapies for rare diseases and to increase awareness of rare diseases through education, science, and ethical business practices. The Center is a unique academic non-profit unit that interacts with government agencies, patient advocates, and life science companies.

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KGI.edu
Center Functions:

Working with corporate partners, patient organizations, and venture philanthropists, the Center:

- Assesses and evaluates undeveloped orphan drugs and biologics held in biomedical companies.

- Works with patient organizations to document the prevalence of rare diseases, identify potential therapies, and devise strategies for promoting development and commercialization.

- Works with the FDA to run workshops on orphan drug designations.

- Publishes papers on orphan drug regulations.

- Assists in preparation and filing of orphan drug designations.

- Funds internships with FDA/OOPD and PhRMA for KGI students.

Visit our website: www.KGI.edu/CRDT.xml

Ian Phillips (center) with FDA officials Erica McNeillly and Dr. Mathew Thomas during the student workshop with the FDA.

The Center for Rare Disease Therapies (CRDT) was established under Dr. Ian Phillips and President Shelly Schuster at KGI to increase awareness of rare diseases through education, research, and new therapies. The center works with key groups and trains a student workforce skilled in rare disease therapies and regulation.

CRDT NEWS:

1. October 2009: CRDT organized a national symposium on “New Strategies for Rare Diseases” for top leaders from industry, government, science and patient advocates.

2. CRDT hosted the first FDA/industry “Orphan Drug Designation Workshop” in February 2010. The 2-day workshop attracted 29 pharmaceutical/academic sponsors and generated 18 orphan designation applications. The model was repeated at the Univ. of Minnesota, and as a result 25% more orphan designations were approved than during the previous year.

3. KGI student Silviya Meletath drafted an orphan drug designation for start-up company BPT pharmaceuticals. The application was approved.

CRDT PUBLICATIONS:


CRDT SUPPORT:

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- The Norris Foundation
- Sigma-Tau Pharmaceuticals
- PhRMA
- The Gross family