

# Top experts joining Finnish Drug Discovery Center:

**Julia Lindqvist appointed Director, Target Science**  
**Patrik Holm appointed Director, Medicinal Chemistry**

November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024



**Patrik Holm** joins FDDC as Director for Medicinal Chemistry. He is trained in chemistry and biotechnology and has acquired nearly 30 years of experience in Medicinal Chemistry and Antibody Engineering at organizations of different sizes (Astra Zeneca, Orion Pharma, Organon). Holding various scientist and lead roles, he has gained expertise in molecular aspects of Drug Discovery spanning from Target Discovery to early Development. He has worked on large number of target classes and indications. Achievements include 15 patents and significant contributions to clinical candidates that demonstrated target engagement in the CNS. Patrik's broad expertise and experience are invaluable for drug discovery at FDDC.

**Julia Lindqvist** joins FDDC as Director for Target Science. Julia has a PhD degree in Cell Biology from Åbo Akademi University where she focused on understanding mechanisms governing muscle development and cancer cell behavior. After her PhD, Julia moved to Orion Pharma for a position elucidating the mechanism of action of cancer therapies. She spent nearly 8 years at Orion, serving in both scientist and leader roles. In her previous role at Orion Pharma, Julia lead an oncology-focused research and drug discovery team responsible for evaluating novel drug target biology and mechanism of action of pharmaceutical compounds, setup of innovative screening assays, screening of compounds as well as in vitro and in vivo pharmacology studies. Particularly, Julia's broad biology understanding and vast expertise in building novel strategies for target discovery, validation and screening, supports academic innovations and drug discovery project collaborations at the FDDC

We are thrilled to welcome Julia and Patrik to our team. Patrik's expertise in medicinal chemistry and Julia's strong background in target biology will strengthen our capabilities and help us achieve next milestones. We look forward to the fresh perspectives and energy they will bring to us.", says CSO **Pekka Kallio**.

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