

Brian Cox
Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry
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Brian studied at the University of Manchester working on novel antifungal agents and novel opioid-like analgesics, followed by an industrial Post Doc. at Schering-Plough, New Jersey focussed on the marine natural products Pseudopterosins.

Brian then spent 12 years at GSK working in many different disease areas and developing a keen interest in the modulation of ion channels as a target class. Moving to Novartis (Horsham) in 2002 he became Head of Chemistry with the site specialising in Respiratory and GI research, as well as acting as an expertise hub for automated synthesis for the Novartis chemistry organisation.

He is associated with a number of marketed compounds and multiple late stage clinical candidates including the recently reported potential new asthma drug Fevipiprant.

Brian is now at the University of Sussex, where he is Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry focussing on drug discovery underpinned with automated synthesis. He is also co-founder and director of Photodiversity Ltd, a company specialising in the generation of novel screening libraries generated using highly innovative photochemical and automation methods.

He is an elected member of the Royal Society of Chemistry's Chemistry Biology interface division Board and long term member of the Biological & Medicinal Chemistry Sector (BMCS) interest group. He is an advisory board member for H3D drug discovery (University of Cape Town), QEDDI drug discovery (University of Queensland) and Abbvie (USA).

He is a champion of diversity and inclusion (D&I) and served on the Research D&I Council at Novartis for 5 years.