

Please click on link to download broadcast quality audio grabs
drive.google.com/drive/folders/11CCxn7PDCLSe_pfvbrke1cHcR-vLILXk?usp=drive_link

QBiotics Group celebrating 25 years of harnessing Queensland's natural environment at the World Science Festival Brisbane (WSFB)

Dr. Victoria Gordon

Co-Founder & Non-Executive Director,
QBiotics Group, **BRISBANE**

GRAB A

When and by whom was the original company of the QBiotics Group founded?

The original company of the QBiotics Group was called EcoBiotics. And EcoBiotics was founded by myself and Dr. Paul Reddell. We're former CSIRO research scientists that was founded in 2000.

GRAB B

Can you describe your discovery platform, EcoLogic?

Paul Reddell and I saw an opportunity to refine the search for small biologically active molecules from the natural environment. We put out the, the information that we have on how the natural environment functions, particularly plants. They produce this particular chemicals to repel, to attract, to access nutrients. We understand how the natural system works. And so we put together targeted strategies for particular biological activity and, and we called that Ecologic. That's our discovery platform.



GRAB C

What compelled you to establish the QBiotics Group?

Both Paul and I, uh, we, we worked with nature in CSIRO and the extraordinary biological activity that is out there in the natural environment, of course, plants defending themselves and producing chemicals to survive. And so we saw an opportunity to really refine the approach and the, and, and target plant material for bi, the biological specific biological activity. And that really converts to particular medicines.

GRAB D

What has the QBiotics Group discovered to date using the EcoLogic™ platform?

The first of our programmes is in cancer. We have tigilanol tiglate, which is an anti-cancer drug that really is active against a broad range of solid tumours. The second of our programmes is in wound healing. We have a wound healing product that is active against chronic and acute wounds and burns, and we have two earlier programmes in antibiotics and anti-inflammatories.

GRAB E

What has the QBiotics Group discovered with EBC-1013 & wound healing?

A second programme in QBiotics is in wound healing. It's a small molecule called EBC-1013, and it is a pharmaceutical, not a device, a simple gel, and it's active against chronic wounds, acute wounds and burns, the whole range of wounds.

GRAB F

How does tigilanol tiglate destroy solid tumours?

Tigilanol tiglate is a very simple drug to use. You inject it directly into the tumour, and initially there's an action against the tumour cells themselves, they basically, they break down the secondary responses against the tumour vasculature. The drug makes the tumour vasculature break down, and this whole response is, it results in total destruction of the tumour, and that occurs within five to 10 days. And of course, when we're treating external tumours, there is a wound or a pocket left. Of course, our drug also stimulates healing of that site, and that site heals mostly with minimum to no scarring.

GRAB G

How is the QBiotics Group harnessing nature to help solve medical problems?

The natural environment is complex and particularly plants. Of course, you and I can actually run away from our enemies, but, but plants can't. And so, what they've done is, they've developed these extraordinary, elegant systems to defend themselves. And of course, most of that is chemical defence, and they're, they're solving their own problems with chemistry. And in many ways, they're solving our problems, our medical problems with that chemistry as well.

GRAB H

How does the QBiotics Group promote nature to ensure its preservation for future generations and ongoing discoveries?

The more successful QBiotics is in the discovery and development of medicines from nature, the greater the argument to preserve our natural environment, and this is not just in Australia, but worldwide.

GRAB I

What is soft tissue sarcoma, and why is it crucial to develop new treatment options for this disease?

Under the banner of soft tissue sarcomas is approximately 70 different tumour types. So this is a really complex disease. We still don't have the optimum solution for soft tissue sarcomas, and that's why we in QBiotics are concentrating on that disease.

GRAB J

How is your head & neck cancer research progressing?

Head and neck cancer can be quite a debilitating disease because it is really, um, in the area of the face, et cetera. Our phase two, in our phase two studies, we're actually proving efficacy of our drug against head and neck cancer and also safety as well.

GRAB K

How is the QBiotics Group celebrating its 25th anniversary this year at the World Science Festival Brisbane (WSFB)?

The QBiotics Group is a programme partner for the Unseen Worlds Exhibition for the World Science Festival in Brisbane.

QBiotics, uh, will be proudly showcasing our anti-cancer drug, figilanol tiglate with, with a range of photographs and microscopic images.

GRAB L

What do you consider to be the three greatest achievements of the QBiotics Group over the past 25 years?

I feel the three greatest achievements for the QBiotics Group is of course, primarily EcoLogic, our wonderful discovery technology; the drugs that we've actually sourced through EcoLogic - our anti-cancer drug, our wound healing drug, and other programmes. And of course, the extraordinary people that we've attracted to the company to work with us and collaborate with us to, in the development of these drugs.

GRAB M

What accomplishment at the QBiotics Group are you most proud of?

I'm mostly proud of the culture that we've actually developed in QBiotics. This is a culture that's based on ethics and, and on respect. We have respect for each other, for those who we collaborate with, our shareholders, but importantly, for the patients, the human and animal patients that we are developing our drugs for, and also the natural environment that we work in, and of course the animals in research. All of that comes together to, to really form a company, that I personally am very proud of.

GRAB N

What does the future hold for the QBiotics Group?

Paul Reddell and I, as founders of the QBiotics Group, are really building the company for the future. We are here to stay. We are building a biopharmaceutical company because in Ecologic we have this fantastic innovation, but of course, we can't do everything ourselves. And so we see QBiotics as the centre hub of a group of collaborative companies. And this is a, this is fantastic for Australia. We're building for the future.

GRAB O

What is your message to those who have supported the QBiotics Group over the past 25 years?

Our shareholders are so important to QBiotics Group and without them, Paul Riddell and I would still be standing in the rainforest saying, we've got a great idea. So I'd really like to pass on our heartfelt thanks to all of these extraordinary people who've been so very patient and just continue to support us over many, many years.

ends#

For more information regarding this ANR, please contact:

Kirsten Bruce, Principal, VIVA! Communications

T 02 9968 3741 / 1604

M 0401 717 566

E kirstenbruce@vivacommunications.com.au